

FLORENCE, MISSOURI

Morgan County

1832-1992





Preface

In May, 1992, we started dreaming about a book filled with local history written by the people themselves. The response has been tremendous. We thank you for it!

An undertaking such as this would have mistakes and be incomplete had we started it two years ago. Doing it in less than two months will compound such problems, so bear with our inadequacies.

Perhaps another such book, even larger in size, could be planned for our 175th anniversary in the year 2007. And perhaps that book could contain even more families, because many from the Florence area are not represented here. Many of us have started looking at our family history seriously for the first time. We find there are gaps—names, dates, etc., that we couldn't research in two months. We now have 15 years, so no excuses!

If we tried to name everyone who is helping with our 160th anniversary celebration we would need an extra page in this book. But we do thank you. It would be remiss not to mention Janet Carver Franklin, however. Janet has been our guiding force and we appreciate her.

The Publication Committee

Nora Steele Cramer

Janet Carver Franklin

Deloris Mahnken Nolting

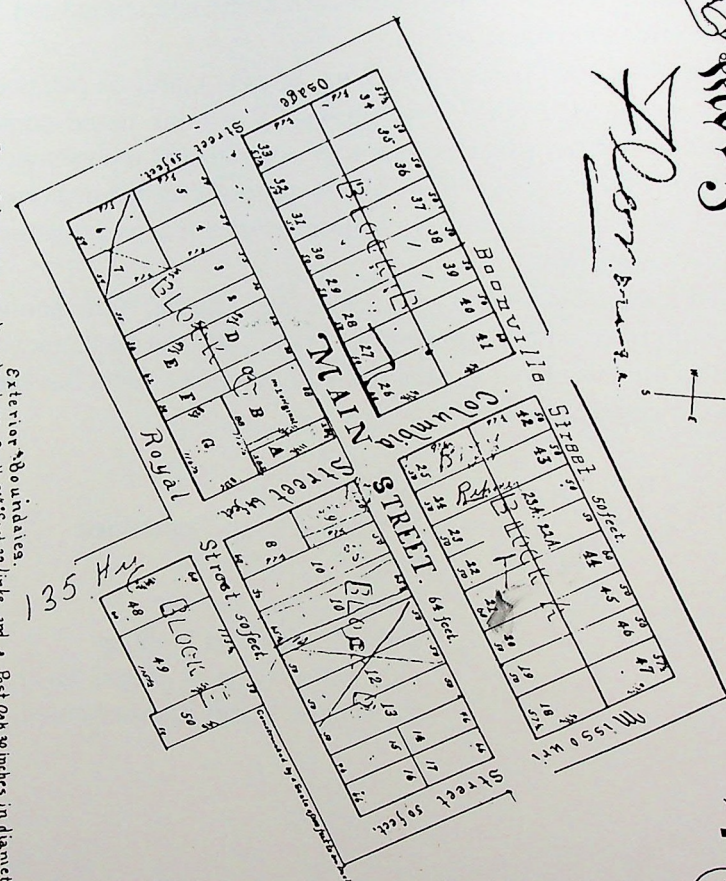
Elvera Baumgartner Siegel, co-chairman

Laverna Schroder Zimmerschied, co-chairman

This book is dedicated to the families of the people of Florence and to the memories each of us shared with them.

SEMPER PARATI MORGAN COUNTY MISSOURI.

Thorburn & Co.



Commencing at a Stone from which a Black Oak 30 inches in diameter bears South 89° West 212 links and thence North 65° East 481 feet and thence South 22° East 134 feet, and thence North 65° East 175 feet, and thence South 89° West 212 links and thence North 65° East 481 feet, and thence South 22° East 134 feet to a Post from a Stone from which a Black Oak 30 inches in diameter bears North 30° East 183 links and thence North 25° West 354 feet to a Post from a Cottonwood 12 inches in diameter bears North 30° East 183 links and thence South 55° West 399 feet and thence South 25° East 354 feet to the place of beginning.

Exterior Boundaries.

D. W. GERMAN, Surveyor.

Filed for Record this 3rd day of June 1882 at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes P.M.
James McRae Recorder.

FLORENCE CHRONOLOGY

1832-June 3, land where Florence now exists was granted from the U.S. Government to a Mr. Williams, and the town was called Williamsville until about 1839.

1858-Butterfield Overland Mail had a relay station in Florence where the stagecoach teams of horses were exchanged for a fresh team. The trail started from Syracuse, the end of the railroad at that time, and went south toward Warsaw. The Florence station operated until 1861.

1860-Census figures listed 258 households in Richland Township in which Florence is included. Some of the Florence residents were: Eli Carr, age 26, physician; J.H. King, age 28, physician, and Henry Powell, age 34, physician.

1861-Civil War began. During the war the town of Florence was destroyed by fire. The war ended in 1865.

1877-July 14, John M. and Sophia Hummel paid \$5 filing fee to enlarge thier building site.

1878-The "Morgan County, Missouri, Business References" a publication that listed area businessmen who paid to be included in its pages, contained the names of Florence businessmen Anton E. Ehlers, farmer from Hamburg, Germany; J.M. Hummel, stone and earthenware fire brick and tiling, farmer from Saxony, Coburg, Germany; Josephus Milburn, school teacher and farmer from Putnam, MO; D.G. Simmons, farmer, from Morgan, MO; and L.F. Simmons, farmer, from Morgan, MO.

1860-Census June 28, lists 50 persons in 14 households headed by: Joseph Clark, physician; Charles Steinbach, merchant; John Hummel, potter (his household included two "pottery laborers"), Englebert Born; James R. Reed; Charles H. Fisher, blacksmith; James Hook, merchant; Louis Bremer, Blacksmith, Thomas Hook, merchant; and Joseph Anthony, druggist.

1882-June 3, plat of Florence recorded in Morgan County Courthouse recorders office.

1887-Florence school teacher listed as J.J. Jones.

1889-Florence school teacher as A.G. Baker.

1892-Dr. John Boles practiced medicine in Florence.

1893-June 22 Florence news items reported Dr. J.W. Martin was the druggist and the Fourth of July celebration was held at Baughman Springs, a "suburb of Florence."

1895-March 7 issue of the Versailles Leader, Florence correspondent who gave her name as "Bijou" reported. "The post office at this place was removed last Saturday to the store of Mr. Fred Schroder. The change was satisfactory to the people. We wish our dear bachelor postmaster success and hope some of the fair sex in the near future will be called to share his joys." March 28, Bijou reported "My political prejudices are with the democracy, but I am almost converted to that principle as promulgated by the Florence republican flambeau club last fall. That is "America for Americans" and "Americans to rule America". June Bijou wrote "Lee Hughs, merchant, put up an addition to his dwelling. We have a 150 foot drilled public well in town, which will be a great help to us. Messr. Schick and Whiteys steam mill is doing good business. E.M. Carr, the best poet and one of the leading scholars of the state is in bad health. His eyes, never strong, seem to be a great deal more weakly than usual."

1896-July 16 issue of Leader contained this advertisement: "Old Kentucky Bourbon, 90 proof, \$2.00 per gallon, at Alf Ortstadt's, Florence."

1897-Teacher in Florence was J.T. Hackaday.

1901-October 9, listing of Morgan County merchants licensed included H.A. Bremer, C.L. Hughes and E.G. Borne, Milton Lewis, Rasa Lemke, Frank Casdorph and Wm. Tiemen, all in Florence.

1905-Blacksmith was J.T. Hackaday. January 26 Statesman's column "Florence Facts" read "The stockholders of Florence and Syracuse Telephone Company met and elected the following officers: L.C. Siegel, president; H.A. Bremer, secretary; Fred Schroeder, treasurer. The company expects to begin construction work as soon as the material arrives."



Main Street of Florence, 1953

1906-June 21 issue of the Versailles Statesman contains a report by the newspaper's editor who "spent part of the day in Florence last Saturday". His first comments were about the trip itself, as he wrote "It being 16 miles from Versailles to Florence as the crow flies but a full 40 miles as a man drives it. The road is full of ruts and rocks; when you are not in a rut you are on top of a rock." While in Florence, the editor visited Henry Bremer, "merchant and postmaster," who is building a new house and "was born and raised in Florence and is one of the fixtures of the place." The editor also commented on Rasa and Lemke's need to enlarge their store building, Milton Lewis, merchant, doing good business, and Drs. Bay and Cline being in town because there was "little sickness that day". The account continues "Uncle Charlie Steinbaugh and his good wife are still keeping the

Florence Inn. There is nowhere in America where a hungry person can get more good things to eat for a quarter than he can get at this splendid inn" which also featured "one of the best gardens and grape vinyards" from which the Steinbaughs "make much grape wine." The newspaper editor also said "J.A. Allison was in town seeing about the telephone system he was building between Florence and Otterville," and that Diedrich Bremer also was "in town talking politics."

1908-Licensed merchants in Florence that year were H.A. Bremer, Rasas and Lemke, and J.H. Williams.

1910-June 16 issue of the Statesman featured a picture of The Florence Cornet Band and listed the members as Herbert Borne, Jacob Cline, Stanley Bremer, Reno Borne, Chester Bennington, E.G. Borne, E.A. Duvel, A.C. Oehrke, W.D. Bremer,



1st Row: 1 Hubert Borne, 2 Walter Borne, 3 Jake Cline, 4. Stanley Bremer, 5 Reno Borne
 2nd Row: 1 Chester Bennington, 2 E.G. Borne, 3 Ernest Duvel, 4 August Oehrke, 5 Wm D. Bremer 6 Otto Brunkhorst
 3rd Row: 1 Chris Brauer, 2 Cord Lemke, 3 Henry Bremer, 4 Ed Michaelkowsky, 5 Wesley Lewis, 6 Ben Born

Otto Brunkhorst, Chris Brauer, C.C. Lemke, H.A. Bremer, Edward Michaelowsky, Wesley Lewis and Bernhard Borne, and included the information that H.A. Bremer, a Florence merchant, was president, and A.C. Oehrke, farmer, was bandmaster. The band was called "one of the best bands in Central Missouri" because "every member is a gentleman and is interested in Florence and its business."

1913-The post office was moved from the grocery store to a small white building just west of the present location.

1915-Licensed merchants were H.A. Bremer, C.C. Lemke and Loges Tierman.

1918-The Bank of Florence was organized April 1 with H.A. Bremer, president and John S. Daniels, cashier.

1928-September 13 issue of the Statesman contained an advertisement for the Florence Garage, C.C. Lemke, prop., selling tires, inner tubes, oil and gas.

1930-November 26 Judge Robert Frank Walker died and was buried in the Riverview Cemetery, Jefferson City. He was born November 29, 1850, the son of Belford S. Walker, and an 1877 graduate of M.U. Law School. He practiced law in Versailles, was Attorney General of Missouri and was a chief justice of the Supreme Court, according to his obituary.

1931-January issue of the Leader reported "J.F. Casdorff, Florence, Missouri, has a dry goods and grocery store. It was robbed Saturday night, later some of the stolen goods were found in a hay stack near Florence."

1932-Eighth grade graduates were Esther Mitchell, Gilberta Worthley, Eugene Siegel, Lee Lemler and Helen White.

1934-November, newspaper account; "The Bank of Florence, Missouri, was closed by its board of directors on Thursday of last week. Its affairs were turned over to O.H. Moberly, state commissioner or finance." Officers and directors of the bank were: W.P. Stephens, president, E.R. Evans, vice-president; and Lewis Siegel, H.C. Rodenback, Robert Eldenburg, H.C. Mertgen and John S. Daniels, board members.

1939-Russell Silvey was the high school teacher. R.J. Murray, a state legislator, opened a store in Florence until he moved it to Otterville in 1941.

1941-Carl Siegel's store closed; He purchased it in 1920 from H.A. Bremer who had bought it

about 1891 from Fritz (Fred) Schroeder.

1942-March 20, newspaper report: "Due to the serious illness of the mother of L.D. Fowler, the Tiff mine operated by Mr. Fowler, two miles north of Florence was closed down last week indefinitely."

1946-Agnes Wray taught the lower school for a salary of \$150 and Lubertha Hofstetter taught in the upper school for \$140. E.H. Bremer was president of the school board and Glenn Mertgen was district clerk.

1952-March 20 issue of the Leader-Statesman contained this announcement: "August S. Kanenbley who recently purchased the old Bremer store building at Florence, Missouri, has put in a stock of general merchandise and is now open for business."

1962-Allied Telephone Company bought Mutual Telephone Company in Florence.

1966-History of Florence published in March 24 issue of the Versailles Leader-Statesman: Florence post office moved to the former bank of Florence building.

1967-Florence School closed and students transferred to Stover.

1969-United Church of Christ Evangelical and Reformed Church had Otto Schroeder as pastor.

1970-The Rev. Jerry M. Moon was pastor of the United Methodist Church.

1971-The Rev. Robert W. Horton was pastor of the United Methodist Church.

1974-May, Walter R. Tompson died. He was born November 1864 and had been a barber in Florence for 48 years. His half-brother is Earl Borne, Stover. The Rev. Harry B. Colquhoun took over as pastor of St. John's.

1982-Florence business district includes Kanenbley's Country Store, two gas pumps owned by Floyd Woolery, a post office, a volunteer fire department, and two churches. Outlying businesses are The Hair'm Beauty Salon, Eldenberg's welding shop, Baughman's Feed Service and turkey/poultry operation, Bob Rehmer's automotive repair and body shop and Leo Mahnken's auto mechanics shop.

1992-Florence business district includes Florence Trading Post, Beautyrama Beauty Salon, Ambush Restaurant and Last Saloon, a post office, two churches, a volunteer fire department and Florence Citizen's Patrol, Inc. Outlying business are Baughman's Feed Service, Leo Mahnken's Auto

Mechanics Shop, Elmer's Saw Shop, Al's Auto Body, Noltings Welding, R & J Welding, Kansas City-Sedalia Express Trucking Service, Brodersen Sand and Gravel, Siegel Farm Supply, Pages Auto Sales and Varner Tax Service.

FLORENCE

This town is believed to be the first settlement in Morgan County, and this belief is substantiated by the markers found in the cemeteries here.

Plotted June 3, 1832, by a man named Williams, it was first called Williamsville, this was a year before Morgan County was organized by an act of the Legislature. In late 1837 or early 1838, the town was renamed "Florence."

Among the first settlers were Dr. Sherman, who started a store and William Baughman. Baughman was one of the best blacksmiths in the area, and had a good deal of business from both Versailles and Tipton. Baughman became the first postmaster and was influential in the development of the town. He served as representative from Morgan County through five terms.

Florence was a thriving town of 500 before the Civil War. A stop on the Butterfield Trail, it provided a place where horses were fed and new teams hitched to stage coaches. It had a hotel and three stores, two blacksmith shops and wagon shops, two packing houses and three churches.

The packing houses did a big business in that early era. Hogs were brought in and sold to the packers. The meat and lard were taken on schooner wagons drawn by oxen to Boonville, and necessary supplies were brought back in the wagons on the return trip.

Florence was the center of activity on Saturday nights when people from the Prairie land to the South would come to town. This area was called the "Nation", and later became the towns of Fortuna, Glensted, Akinsville and Versailles.

There were big events in the village - horse races, foot races, shooting matches and fights. News of an impending fight traveled far and fast and brought large crowds. The bowling alley was another popular place.

The Civil War brought real disaster to Florence, for some persons sympathized with the North and some with the South. In a blacksmith shop, learning a trade was a 15 year old boy named Carl Fischer, who later became a blacksmith at Stover. He was alone in the shop when several men rode up on their horses and demanded that he do some horseshoeing for them. The boy was trying to do the work, so scared he hardly knew what he was doing, when suddenly the men became alarmed about something. As they stood together talking, too intent to pay attention to him, the boy saw a chance to escape and he did. He slipped out the back of the shop and hid. Florence was burned dur-



Blacksmith shop on the northwest corner of Florence where the Last Saloon now stands. Notice the pump on the lower left corner of the picture. This is the well that stood in the center of the road for many years.

ing the war, and although it later continued to be a prosperous little village, it never fully recovered.

Florence was a good community for an inland town 1911-1912, and continued as such until the bank closed in 1935. The bank had been organized in 1918 with H.A. Bremer, President and John S. Daniels, Cashier.

Among the prominent citizens in the town from 1911 to 1925 H.A. Bremer, Cord Lemke, Jim Combs, Jake Cline, August Bremer, Fred Rasa, the Bornes, Bill Tieman, Ezra Fowler, Wes Lewis, the Rev. Paul Wobus, Bill Griffin, Harry Bremer, Herman Bremer, and Bud Johnson. Dr. E.E. Holtzen had his office in Florence and Dr. Roy Bay was a dentist.

A log building in town used to stand behind Clarence Brown's place, now Mr. and Mrs. Sisson's place. It was owned by Henry Bremer, and was used to store ice. Men would go down to the creek and cut ice with a crosscut saw and cut it into squares and place them in the log building and cover it with sawdust. It would keep frozen for months. They had ice up until July.

As a matter of fact, the big town celebration took place about the time the ice supply was running low. Lemonade in big barrels, a wood Merry-go-round that was pushed by hand, and beer that was kept cold in Jake Cline's cistern were the highlights of the annual Fourth of July picnic. If you had a quarter you were rich.

A favorite gathering spot was the town well. Located in the middle of town, where Highway 135 now passes through, the well provided water for the townspeople as well as for their stock. When the highway was built, the well was closed.

Maybe if the railroad had been routed through Florence instead of Stover and Syracuse, things would have been different. Because of that, Florence gradually became what it is today.

Florence still has several businesses: The Florence Tranding Post (the old Siegel Store), owned by Dick and Kay Brooks, and a Beauty shop located in the back of the store. In the old Bremer Building (R. Kanenbley place), the Ambush Restaurant and Last Saloon is housed, by owners Janet and Mike Franklin. Elmer's Saw Shop, owned by Elmer Chiles, in on the West end of town and we still have a Post Office with Pam James as Postmaster.

Submitted by:
Janet L. Franklin

GABRIEL SPRINGS

There are many claims as to who was first into this country. Old John Gabriel must have been among them, when he settled two miles east of Florence in 1819, bringing with him his second wife and her son, Abner Weaver. Gabriel was a tanner by trade and did tan hides, but soon after arriving he was busy selling whiskey from his still to the Indians on the frontier. This was a definite no-no, but being left pretty much alone, he did a profitable business. He might take hides in trade, but wanted silver or gold, which the indians were glad to get rid of.

In time, his wife and her son became tired of hunting for his cache, and so on July 30, 1830, he was murdered by a black slave belonging to Ruben Harris of Boonville. During the trial, the black man, Jack, testified that Abner Weaver had hired him to kill the man. Since he was a slave, his testimony was thrown out, and was hung for the deed and Weaver was excused. Weaver was later shot off of a horse that he was stealing, and his mother also suffered an untimely death. His treasure has been sought for years near the old springs, but never found. The land has since been bulldozed, so there isn't much sense in looking. Is there?

HUMMEL POTTERY

The first Hummel Pottery plant was located three miles south of Florence in the 1850's and 60's. It was a large operation with at least three large ovens in operation. The ovens were about 8 feet across and the fire box stood three feet high. It was built on the order of a beehive with the fire box in the in the bottom and air holes in the top. Hickory wood was in abundance to keep the fire hot. Clay was mined and used from the same area.

The plant was moved to Florence around 1890. John M. Hummel moved his plant and family to the west side of Florence, and built a large two story brick house and a three story building for the pottery plant. Manufactured at this new plant was jars, vases, bricks, crocks, tile and pottery parlour stoves. The stove was the most unusual. It was made of a tile with a raised or embossed design on it. The completed tile stove stood seven feet tall and three feet wide.

Many families still have pieces of Hummel pottery in their possession.

I would say transportation was the biggest reason

for closing the plant. With the railroad running through Stover and Syracuse, it was hard to find a better way to move the pottery.

Submitted by:
Janet Franklin

OLDEST HOUSE

The oldest known house in the Florence community lies one mile east of Florence. At first it was called the Pete Kurtz place and later became the Peter Mertgen Place. Glenn and Louella Mertgen bought the place in 1933.

The house has two log rooms 17' by 17'. Floors are made of logs, oak and pine. Before 1933 each room had a stove pipe and chimney running through the middle for heat. Port holes were built in the cellar way and on the west wall of the front room. They were put there so the owners could look through them for bushwhackers during the Civil War and after.



By 1953 the house had grown from its original two log rooms.

In 1900 Dick Bultmeir lived in the home. He added a kitchen and pantry to the house. Instead of a gate at the front entrance of the yard, a style block was used. The block was made of lumber—two steps up, a platform and two steps down to the ground. This was removed in 1933.

Electricity was put into the house around 1952. However, water wasn't piped in until 1963 when the house was modernized by Mr. and Mrs. Romie Golden. They added a bathroom and kitchen cabinets with a sink and water.

Until five years ago renters lived in this old house after a new house was built in 1960. A new barn and chickenhouse were built to replace the log ones.

Mary Williams Evans, Louella Dittmer's grandmother, was born in 1862 in a small log house on land that joined this place. Mary Evans told the story of the last time she saw her father. He was behind a tree about halfway between the two houses. The bushwhackers were after him. He escaped as far as Springfield, Missouri, where he died with pneumonia due to exposure.

Submitted by:
Louella Dittmer

BUSHWACKERS

My Dad, Lorenz Ehlers, tells a story about the Bushwhackers who started a fire in the big room of the Kastner house that is just down the road from our house. I think it may have been the August Oehrke place then. This may have been the same August Oehrke who was a Lieutenant in the Benton County Home Guard. When the Bushwhackers left, the family was able to put out the fire before it burned the house. Ray Baughman said he had heard that the Bushwhackers set the fire in the house to get the women to tell where the men of the family were. Dad also tells my Great-grandfather, Claus Ehlers had an encounter with Bushwhackers. He heard them coming out of the timber and he was able to run out the back door of the log cabin and get away in the corn field. They shot at him but didn't hit him.

The story is told that the night of the Cole Camp Battle, Governor Jackson and his staff spent the night at the Sluder place located four miles southwest of Florence. The old military trail ran west of the Sluder place across the creek. John Dohrmann's father and uncle, Henry Brunkhorst, were both killed in the Battle of Cole Camp. When the Governor was told about the battle he and his staff hastily departed. The book, "Bitter Ground", by Kathleen White Miles gives more information about this.

Submitted by:
Roy Ehlers

FEARLESS FATHER FLEES FLORENCE

On October 11 and 12 in 1864, at Boonville, Missouri, General Sterling Price met with his staff which included the guerrilla chieftains Bloody Bill Anderson and George Todd. Plans were made at this meeting to drive west and pick up every able-

bodied person they could to fight for the South. Towns were selected by the leaders to capture and recruit troops. George Todd had the duty of taking Otterville and Florence. Guerrilla bands had the bad habit of shooting those who refused to join their cause.

As luck would have it, William Cramer was in Florence at noon on the 14th when the town was taken. Guerrilla guards were posted on each road out of town and everyone was told not to try to leave or they would be shot.

Cramer had a cabin, wife, and small children just north of Florence and decided the whole southern army wasn't going to stop him from going home. So he just started walking north and right past the guards. For some unknown reason they did not shoot.

The next morning all men and boys that wouldn't join the South were lined up and every third one was shot.

That night Federal troops struck from the east and south driving the southern forces down Brushy Branch and scattering them among the swamps of the Swackhammer bottoms.

We might ask, "Why did 'fearless' William Cramer take the chance of getting shot?"

Now if I were 73 years old and my wife were 31 years old, I doubt if the whole southern army could stop this great-grandson.

Submitted By:
Don Carver

SWEET PEA AND THE EASTER RABBIT

There's a garden spot on the east side of Florence, where in the early 1900's the Hummel Factory was housed. I would say this is one of my favorite spots in Florence. Growing up in this area, that area had held a lot of memories for me. When I was about seven, my grandparents, Charley and Bonnie Worthley owned the property. The house that stood there was also called the Fred Rasa place, the Hummel House, the old hotel and more.

When I was young, I would help Grandma (Bonnie) work in the garden and enjoyed her stories. She would also let me help. I remember close to Easter on Saturday we walked to the Post Office and mailed some letters. On the way back she had some change and laid it on top of a post at the corner of the garden. A couple of days later we were working in the garden and I guess she remembered

the coins and told me to look on top of the post. Sure enough there were the coins. To my surprise, she said the Easter rabbit left them; I had to believe her, she's my Grandma. Beside the corner post is an old iron gate that was part of the fence around the garden. Someone, a long time ago, planted sweet peas, and they are still there. When I see them I think of all the people the vines have seen going into that garden.

Again, last summer (1991), my Grandma (now 86 years old) and I spent several days in the old garden spot, putting out a garden and talking and crying, mostly about my mother, Juanita Carver, who passed away August 25, 1990.

Maybe to some folks it was just two silly people working in a garden, but to me it was just making more memories.

Submitted by:
Janet Franklin

POST OFFICE

The first Post Office in Florence, Missouri was established on June 19, 1839, with William H. Hord being appointed Postmaster. Mr. Hord served in that capacity for three years. The Post Office was originally located in the grocery store and remained there until it was moved to the small white building next to the current post office building in 1913 during the tenure of postmaster Lillian Chilcoat. In 1966 it moved to its current location (the "Bank of Florence" building) at which time Irene Hibdon was postmaster. She was succeeded by Janice Herron (as Officer-in-Charge) in June of 1979. Beverly Lemler became postmaster on December 15, 1979 and remained in that position until 1989 when she was promoted to the postmaster position in Smithton, Missouri where she is still serving. Roy Coggeshall was next to serve the Florence community as Postmaster and was sworn in on June 3, 1989.

The current Postmaster, Pam James, is the 21st person to serve in this community. The office has a Highway Contract Route 62, currently carried by Robert Rehmer, which originates from Smithton with approximately 65 customers and also Rural Route 1, carried by Lois Heimsoth-Brown, which serves approximately 100 rural deliveries and originates in Cole Camp. Laverna Zimmerschied serves as postmaster replacement. About 40 people receive their mail service through P.O. Boxes

or General Delivery.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE

List of Florence postmasters and when they took office.

6-19-1839 Wm. H. Hord
11-15-1842 Wm. Baughman
12-27-1854 Edward Bruihl
2-16-1858 Theodore Bloess
7-18-1860 Wm. Bloess
5-11-1861 August Heimsomeyer
2-3-1863 Wm. S. Hoelms
9-29-1863 Charles F.W. Smith
12-5-1865- Peter Hewase
112-14-1871 Chas. Oteinback
9-23-1887 Baseel Cline
1-14-1895 Fred (Fritz) Schroeder
3-3-1900 Henry A. Bremer
1-23-1913 Lillian Chilcoat
7-30-1921 Carl C. Siegel
5-18-1922 Bessie Fowler
10-8-1923 Lena Fowler (acting)
11-12-1923 Lena F. Carver (name changed by court)
7-27-1939 Lena Mankin (name changed by marriage)
5-21-1947 Opal I. Hibdon (acting)
8-18-1948 Opal I Hibdon
6-29-1979 Janice R. Herron (OIC)
12-15-1979 Beverly G. Lemler
2-11-1989 Paul Dameron (OIC)
6-3-1989 Roy S. Coggeshall
8-29-1990 Julie Wise
12-27-1990 Eilene Kimberling
2-23-1991 Pam S. James

FLORENCE SENIOR CITIZENS

The Florence Senior Citizens would like to welcome all senior citizens in the area to come join them the first Wednesday of each month for a carry in dinner at the Ambush Restaurant. Drinks are purchased from the restaurant, and lunch is served at 12:00 noon with a meeting and games following.

We now have about 15 active members and about the same number who are inactive due to being in nursing homes and out of the area for a while, etc.

1992 Officers are: President, Edith Houchen
Vice-President, Louella Dittmer
Secretary, Opal Mahnken
Treasurer, Barbara Lewis

HISTORY OF BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH FLORENCE, MISSOURI LAMINE ASSOCIATION

In the year of 1846 after a series of meetings in private homes the Bethlehem Baptist Church near Florence, Missouri, was organized. The organization took place at the home of B.F. Dinwiddie. Mrs. B.F. Dinwiddie suggested the name adopted for the church. The first acre of land bought by the church was deeded to "The United Baptist Church of Jesus Christ of Bethlehem Church." The name was later shortened to Bethlehem Church. Worship services were first held in a log building on the site of Harmony. The same building was used for school and Harmony Grange. Brush arbor services were held at this same location in summer and fall. Nearly every October a protracted meeting was held.

Early record books were destroyed by fire at the clerk's home, August 12, 1904, but it was known that the Dinwiddies, Cramers, and Finleys were among the first members.

In 1869 the congregation felt the need of its own church building. On March 21, 1869, the church purchased the present site of one acre of land for the sum of \$30 from Henry and Amanda Wagenknecht. On July 22, 1876, another acre of land was purchased for a burial ground for the sum of \$25 from Henry and Amanda Wagenknecht. On this site a frame building was built which was used until 1903 when it was sold, torn down, and replaced by the present building.

Bethlehem first belonged to Concord Association. In 1871 when Concord Association was divided Bethlehem became a charter member of Lamine Association. The second annual meeting of Lamine Association was held at Bethlehem on October 24, 1873.

The Bethlehem Baptist Sunday School was organized in 1885. The sum of \$1.35 was raised to pay for the lesson sheets.

In December, 1901, a committee of three was selected to see about repairing the old building or building a new church house. The committee selected was James Huntress, James Allison and H.A. Sanders. After investigating the committee suggested a new church be built. This same committee was retained to figure on a new building with the help of W.P. Stephens and Milton Lewis. They decided on a plan for a 30 x 40 building with 18 foot ceiling, nine windows, and two doors. They estimated the cost at \$600 cash plus all hard

lumber, foundation and labor to be furnished by the congregation. They started raising funds about August 1, 1902. It was later decided to buy the lumber and hire the work done. The church was built by John Schroeder at a cost of \$1200. It was dedicated May 10, 1905. Rev. F.C. Richards preached the dedicatory sermon and \$500 was raised that day which completely paid off all debt.

On September 29, 1946, Bethlehem Church celebrated its 100th Anniversary with a morning worship service, a basket dinner, and an afternoon program.

The morning message "Seed-Time" was brought by Rev. Elmer Mundy, pastor of the church. The afternoon message "Blossom-Time" was brought by Rev. M.C. Ballenger of Syracuse, and the last message of the afternoon "Harvest-Time" was brought by Rev. Hallie Rice of Sedalia. More than 300 persons attended the centennial celebration.

Bethlehem has licensed five members from its congregation to be ministers. They were H.A. Sanders, James Holly Miller, Ed Michalkowsky, Walter Brodersen and Howard Lewis. One of the first ministers to be ordained at Bethlehem on the records available was Marcus Whiting on December 27, 1885. Others ordained at Bethlehem were H.A. Sanders, Sid Waterman, Lonnie Martin and Emmette A. Barton, Sr.

In 1973 our building lost its one-room status when a 20' x34' addition with basement was attached to the older structure. In 1974 a well was dug, and water was piped to the basement. In 1975 the auditorium was redecorated: the ceiling was lowered, new light fixtures were installed, the walls papered, carpeting was installed, and new pews were purchased. In June, 1976 a gift of two air conditioners was gratefully accepted by the Church.

In 1977 a church constitution and by-laws was developed, presented to the church, and approved.

June 24, 1979, a dedication service was held for the addition to the church which was started in August 1978. It consists of an expansion to the auditorium, additional classrooms, pastor's study, restrooms, kitchen and fellowship area.

In 1981 Jack Speaker donated additional land for the cemetery.

In 1983 our church building was altered physically by a renovation of a section of our basement to make it suitable for a nursery. This included sectioning it into smaller rooms, carpeting the walls and floor of the play area, and the addition of two

rest rooms.

On October 11, 1987 Oscar and Juanita Lewis donated our new organ.

A new road was built through our cemetery by our church membership.

In 1990 the stage was remodeled, the auditorium was paneled, and balloon curtains were purchased for the windows.

In May 1992 vinyl siding was installed on the steeple and the soffit, fascia, window and door frames were clad with aluminum to beautify the structure and lower maintenance.

Bethlehem is currently being served by five active deacons. Alan Hazelrigg, Cecil Cook, Bill Fuehring, Rick Martensen, and George Garrison. John Sanders is an inactive deacon.

The following pastors have served Bethlehem: S. Driskell, J.W. Williams, David Allee, Andrew Estes, J.K. Godbey, T.V. Greer, William Rodgers, Franklin Ireland, B.F. Dinwiddie, Marcus Whiting, James Stone, Albert Fetterhoff, R.F. Driskell, C.H. Cramer, Jehu Robinson, I. Barber, F.O. Richards, E.F. Shelton, J.S. Price, Theo Platte, W.B. McGraw, G.C. Davis, C.J. Miller, E.W. Moon, Sid Waterman, P.S. Barrow, L.J. Moran, W.W. Bryan, A.M. Moore, Emmette Dinwiddie, Jack Hood, Jack Nunn, L.E. McReynolds, Elmer Mundy, Sanford Smith, L.E. Kennedy, Gale Dobbins, William Martin, Alton Mathis, Glendale Westfall, Lonnie Martin, A.J. Skelton, John Weidknecht, Ollie Trout, Forrest Bynum, Emmette A. Barton, Sr., Carl Gravatt, Melvin Kessler and Bill Martensen.

Currently our church is entering a transition period with the resignation of our pastor of eighteen years, Rev. W.D. Martensen. However, we shall make the transition as smooth as possible and maintain the high Christian standards that are expected of us.

Bethlehem Church looks forward optimistically and enthusiastically to a continued harmonious interaction with the Florence community and sister churches.

FLORENCE BAPTIST

There was a church in Florence before 1871. Some of its pastors through the years: W. Rogers, B.F. Dinwiddie, B.D. Stone, C.H. Cramer, Harrison Campbell, H.A. Sanders (supply), D.W. Williams, Bro. Baker. Clerks were: L.J. Baughman, J. Milburn, George Casdorff, R.A. Cline, D.E. Williams, Miss

Matie Cline, Mrs. Alice Cramer, Elmer Reynolds. Florence last reported to the Lamine Baptist Association in 1917. The church was located east of the present St. John UCC building.

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Florence Methodist Church began as the Ebenezer Methodist Church in 1844. The founders of this church were two young Circuit Riders, Sebastian Barth and Heinrich Nuelsen.

Barth and Nuelsen came to Central Missouri and established a number of congregations in 1843 and 1844. Lake Creek and Florence were among them. The Florence congregation was called Ebenezer and was located about 3 miles East of Florence. The log building was less than a quarter mile North of the Henry Kanenbley house which we now know as the Herman and Charley Kanenbley place. All that is left to mark the location are a few grave stones of the cemetery which had been near the church.



The Florence Methodist Church

In 1888, during the pastorate of H.C. Dryer, a new frame building was built about a mile South and a bit west of the original building on "the public road." This road is commonly known as the Buffalo Road. A cemetery was begun a few feet North of this church building and that cemetery is still there, fenced and maintained by the Florence Church. A number of Florence Methodists have relatives buried in the Ebenezer cemetery.

Some of the families in the Ebenezer Church were Schroders, Kleins, Gerkens, Wieckens, and Fethkes. There are still Schroders and Fethkes on the roll and several other families are descendants of these early German Methodist families.

The German Methodists, while part of the Methodist Episcopal Church, had their own separate conference. The Ebenezer congregation was in the St. Louis district until a Kansas City District was created in 1893 when it and Lake Creek, both served by the same pastor, became part of the new District.

About 1911, the Ebenezer members decided to move to Florence. For a while they used an old Baptist building that stood just East of the Evangelical (now the United Church of Christ) church. In 1912 they bought their present building on the highway just at the South edge of town from a Lutheran congregation that moved to Pymont. This building was soon lengthened on the East end by about 10 feet with a raised chancel area.

The German Methodists continued as separate conferences, yet part of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After the turn of the century more and more of the local churches began holding services in English, and in 1926 Florence was one of a number of churches that merged into the English speaking Southwest Missouri Conference. Evidently the Ebenezer congregation was using the English speaking services when they moved to Florence.

After the Ebenezer congregation moved to Florence, the Ebenezer building was torn down and the lumber used to build a parsonage in Florence. It still stands today, though it no longer belongs to the church. It is located just South of the old school building.

It was in the uniting Conference in 1939 in Kansas City that the North and South Churches finally united again and joining them also was the Protestant Methodist Church, to form the Methodist Church. The Methodist Church was our name until 1968 when we merged with the United Brethren and our name became The United Methodist Church.

Each year our church has a Lord's Acre Sale. It was started back in the early fifties by the Rev. Van Lear. When this program started, several families planted crops on a acre of land. When they harvested the crops, it was given to the Lord. We no longer do it this way. Everyone donates goods and articles they have to give and we have an auction in the fall. The proceeds from these sales have been used to make many improvements: lowered the ceiling, put in furnace, added a 3 room annex, kitchen, rest rooms, a well, insulation, new siding, pew cushions, carpeting, ceiling fans. When the sale is held in the fall, the women of the church

serve a dinner. This sale usually draws a large crowd.

Over the years the Florence Church has been part of a pastoral charge with different churches: Lake Creek, Stover, Glensted, Otterville, and presently Smithton. Our pastor at this time is the Rev. Judith May.

The Forence congregation is made up of 74 members and has an average attendance of 27. We don't have a Sunday School at this time but we have an active United Methodist Women's group.

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

On November 14, 1847, 18 Baptists were constituted as a church by three ministers: B.F. Dinwiddie, Shannon Akin, and L.J. Baughman. Rev. B.F. Dinwiddie was called as pastor for the ensuing year. In February the young church, which was meeting in the log school house, began to plan for its own home. In 1877 a one room white frame building stood near where the present building stands. It was valued at \$400.00. The church aligned itself with the young Lamine Association in 1875.

Money was scarce. It was hard to pay the minister's salary. In 1912, Brother Zeb Thomas was paid at the rate of \$100.00 a year, quarter time of course. In January, 1945, half-time preaching was begun. In January 1951 the church went full-time when E.H. Boggess accepted the call at \$1,040.00 per year.



Mt. Olive Baptist Church

In 1913, the pastor and moderator, C.A. Stephens, appointed a building committee: R.T. Carpenter, William Cox, W.T. Steele, W.R. Evans, and E.R. Evans. In May, 1914, it was decided to build a larger one-room white frame building

valued at \$1,600.00 This building is still in use today as our sanctuary.

Lighting was a problem. First kerosene lamps were used, then carbide lights, and then gasoline lights. Finally in 1951, the R.E.A. brought electricity to the building.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1894. In 1912 there was an enrollment of 35 and in 1970 the enrollment was 119. The first Vacation Bible School was held in 1944, and the first Training Union in 1916. The Women's Missionary Union reorganized in 1945 and the Men's Brotherhood in 1953.

Ministers licensed were: W.F. Carpenter, 1884, W.D. Martensen, 1960, Norman Potter and Gary Payne, 1961 and Troy Payne in 1965.

Ministers ordained were: 1886 Caleb H. Cramer, (Served as pastor two different times. First 1890. Second 1903) 1947 John Muncy, 1963 Gary Payne, 1986 Paul Larimore.

The following men have served as deacons over the years. James Parsons, William Evans, W.H. Burford, William Cox, August Klein, Melvin Hatfield, C.E. Evans, Dale Cramer, Carl Howard, Addison Burford, John Porter, William Steele, E.R. Evans, John Evans, E.H. Phillips, Harold Otten, W.D. Martensen, Stanley Gieschen, Oliver Lewis, John Brodersen, Leo Schroder, Jackie Phillips, Kenneth Moon, and Billy Homan.

The following men have served as pastor. Some more than once. Lycurgus Baughman was pastor five different times for a total of eight years.

Complete list of pastors: B.F. Dinwiddie, L.J. Baughman, B.D. Stone, W.V. Parsons, Frank Ireland, E.T. Shelton, C.H. Cramer, (was grandfather of Dale Cramer one of our deacons) Robert F. Driskell, J.K. Godby, S.W. Scott, C.N. White, David W. Williams, J.M. Tate, I. Barber, T.J. Sudarth, Zeb Thomas, F.C. Richards, R.P. Douglas, J.B. Bomar, J.S. Price, Roy F. Williams, T.F. Maxwell, John Muncy, Elmer B. Mundy, E.H. Boggess, George Payne, Jay W. Borders, Quenton M. Boyd, Morris Potter, B.F. Dinwiddie, Interim (Grandson of first pastor), Gary Payne, Ed Allen, Leroy Moon, Carl Gravatt, Harold Nicks, and Paul Larimore who is currently our Pastor.

Many improvements have been added to the church, an education building and basement, also have remodeled the sanctuary. We are proud of our lovely country church.

Submitted by
Heleln P. Lewis, Historian

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

The Florence Seventh-Day Adventist Church was built in 1906 and officially disbanded in 1963. Some of the early members of the church were the Cantrels, Eldenburgs, Kintners, Leepers, Lemlers, Marquess, Tuckers and Whites.



Seventh-Day Adventist Church
Sometime in the 1950's

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



St. John United Church of Christ

On January 2, 1866, a parcel of land in the city of Florence, Missouri, was sold by James P. Hook, a local gunsmith, to the German Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church for the sum of \$115.00.

The church had been organized since 1858. In 1869 a new house of worship was constructed of logs on the purchased site. That location has continued as the home of the congregation.

Actually, the life of the congregation had begun some years prior to organization and building. Records show that Sophia Mertgen, daughter of Christian and Catharina Mertgen, born January 19, 1850, was baptized in February. In that same year on May 27, Hein Pieper and Anna Bahrenberg were the principals in the first wedding.

Extensive emigration of German settlers into the Florence area began in the 1840's. These people came from a number of the then separate German states and that European background was an important factor in the early life of St. John Church.

Some of the stress and controversy of the early years reflects differences that had previously existed on the continent. In addition to denominational loyalties, the backgrounds of the various German states in language and in culture contributed to the difficulties. The German Methodists who founded Lake Creek Church, for instance, apparently represented yet another background. Lake Creek "borrowed" the St. John pastor for periods of time now and again but there is no record of any early shifting of the membership between the two. Eventually the Lutheran faction led by John Hummel withdrew from St. John and started a congregation of that persuasion where Florence Methodist Church now stands. That group became a part of the Lutheran Church at Pymont.

German prevailed as the official language of the church for many years. The minutes of the congregation were written in that language until January of 1917. The first mention of an English worship service is in the minutes of July 22, 1900, where it is stated that an evening service in that language would be held on the third Sunday of each month.

As might well be imagined with a small congregation, finances were a continuing problem. To begin with, the German state churches having been tax supported, the idea of voluntary financial support was difficult to adopt for the immigrants. ...The pastor was paid in part by subscription of the membership and in part with proceeds from school fees. Since the clergy of the state churches in Europe were often seen as representatives of the established political bureaucracies, there was sometimes a latent hostility toward them which complicated efforts to pay a living wage.

In the summer of 1877 the matter of the minister's remuneration took on crisis proportions. Evidently payment was made only when or if money was available, making for an irregular and by no means certain income. Upon the presentation of certain demands by then Pastor A. Schroder in July, a special meeting in August determined that every member be required to subscribe to the preacher's salary and that failure to do so would terminate membership. Furthermore, in addition to a firm \$200.00 salary, the pastor was to receive foodstuffs as a moral obligation of the members.

Wood was the fuel for heating and cooking in both church building and parsonage for many years. There are numerous references in the old minutes to the necessity of contributing or helping to accumulate wood for winter use. In very fact it was part of church support. In 1903, since C. Rodenbach was still owed .75 cents for windows he had supplied for the summer kitchen, he was excused from supplying wood that year. In 1908 fifteen cords of wood were purchased from F. Rasa for \$1.50 per cord delivered. ...The autumn practice of gathering a winter's supply of wood in later years proved to be such a festive occasion that Otto Schroedel returned at least once to participate in it, even after leaving the Florence pastorate.

In October, 1964, the first smorgasbord was held and has continued yearly since that time. Forerunners of the present smorgasbord were suppers such as the chicken supper in 1924. How much was made on the first supper is not known but the following year it took in \$81.00 with \$11.00 expenses. In September, 1929, the menu read: fried chicken, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, gravy, slaw, tomatoes, pickled apples, and coconut pie. Net profit from this supper was \$130.00

According to veteran members it was the Ladies Aid that kept the church alive in several periods of its history. As early as 1907 the minutes of the congregation read that, "since the women's organization will cover the cost, it was decided to paint the church." In 1909 they met the bill for painting the parsonage. In 1917 and again in 1922 they participated heavily in providing new light systems for the church property. In March, 1926, they voted to finance the new parsonage basement which was used for meals and other gatherings of the congregation until the Parish Hall was built in 1958. In February, 1929, they pledged to donate \$1500.00 toward building a new parsonage. In 1935 the church interior was repainted with the

Ladies Aid paying the bill.

Not all giving was for the local church, however. In 1916 six bedsheets and one dozen each of towels and pillowcases were sewn for Emmaus Asylum, St. Charles. The Evangelical Children's Home in St. Louis received several donations through the years. In April, 1928, a half case of eggs was sent to Blue Springs, Missouri as an Easter gift for retired ministers.

In June, 1916, there is record of the women earning \$24.66 with an egg shower. One day the old hens laid eggs for the Ladies Aid. The eggs were gathered and sold and proceeds were given to the treasurer. Another novel way of making money was the apron party. The apron was a band with a small pocket in which to enclose the money. Each member paid one cent for each inch of her waist measurement. In March, 1935, the apron party profit was \$11.75.

The present Lay Fellowship donates to the Festival of Sharing each October in Sedalia. Food packets were sent to Russia in 1992. The children in the Sunday school have donated a goat to the Heifer Project and provided a pump for a well in India in the early 1980's. The "quilting grannies" began making quilts for the Festival of Sharing in the mid-eighties. In 1991 a scholarship was established for a student at Eden Seminary who has an interest in serving a rural church.

In 1982 the congregation took part in the 150th anniversary of our town's birthday. Food was served in the parish hall and the sanctuary was kept open for those wishing to see it. Lay Fellowship members acted as hosts and hostesses. At the 160th celebration of the founding of Florence the "quilting grannies" will demonstrate their skills for all who wish to come and see.

The St. John Church has been active in the life of its community almost since the community began. God willing, the St. John United Church of Christ will continue to provide spiritual leadership to this community and service to all humanity for many years to come.

MAPS

The following pages (16 & 17) are maps of the Bethlehem Baptist and Florence United Methodist cemeteries.

Page 18 shows the Morgan County School Districts in 1916.

UNITED METHODIST

504TH | ROAD

COOPER COUNTY

PETIS COUNTY
T. 45 N.
T. 44 N.

T. 43 N.

BENTON COUNTY
T. 42 N.
T. 41 N.

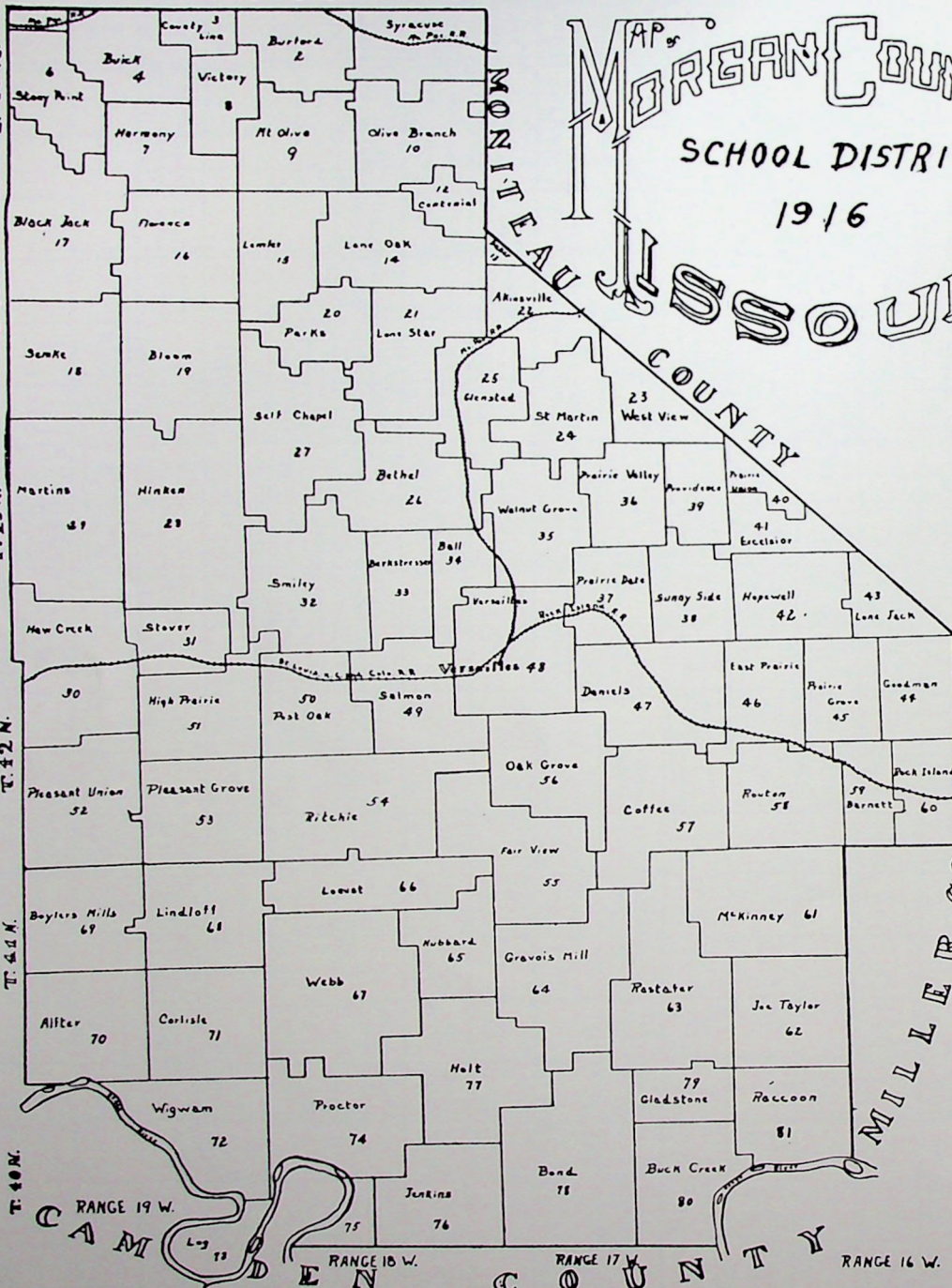
T. 40 N.

RANGE 19 W.

RANGE 18 W.

RANGE 17 W.

RANGE 16 W.



MOORE COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICTS
1916



Florence School 1934-35 - First year in the New building

School Board Members: Robert Eldenburg, John Daniels, Clarence Bremer, E.A. Duvel, Clerk

Teachers: Dorothy Houston, Principal and High School teacher, Kenneth Kirchner, Upper grades, Ruth Henderson, Lower grades.

1st Row (Left to Right)

Cleo Hampy
Jimmy Bremer
Lone Myers
Floyd (Bud) Tieman
Preston Worthley
Glen Johnson
Leland Kurtz
?

C.L. Hampy
Wilma Ellington
Janice Rasa
? Ellington
Alice Hollcroft
Claude Woods
Violet Kurtz

2nd Row
?

Donald Houchen
Carl Bretall
Ilene Rehmer
? Holcroft
Clyde Myers
Roseane Gnagy
Wilma Michalkowsky

Myrtle Eldenburg
Doreen Hartman
Ada Golden
Frances Bretall
Betty White
?

Mable Harris
Eula Brown

3rd Row

Irene Brown
Helen Gnagy
Ruby Tieman
Maxine Bremer
Ruby Rehmer
Nadine Oehrke
Ruby Lemler
Lucille Eldenburg
Helen Bremer
Deliah Duvel
Mildred Zimmerchild
Mary Thompson
Leona Hartman
Mable Ware
Genena Fowler
Geraldine Faulwell

Dorothy White
Blanche Thompson
Gladys Hollcroft
Teacher,
Ruth Henderson

4th Row

Lolen Bremer
?
Clyde Rehmer
Leland Rasa
Leroy Oehrke
Earl Worthley
Vincent Hatfield
Leo Carver
Kalo Boettcher
Otto Zimmerchild
Leo Golden
Kenneth Ellington
Jimmy Gnagy

5th Row

Teacher,
Dorothy Houston
Lester Dittmer
Shelby Oehrke

J.E. Page
Helen Monsees
Hazel Myers
Ona Rages
Dorothy Ellington
Esther Eldenburg
Mancil Brauer
Harley Keltner
Eunice Ware
Elise Eldenburg
Beulah Rasa
Olga Bremer
Quincy Richardson
George H. Page
Teacher,
Kenneth Kirchner

Picture submitted by
Kenneth Kirchner
Jefferson City

SCHOOL

Having graduated from Black Jack Grade School in the spring of 1933, my parents made plans for my high school education in the two-year high school at Florence that fall. My cousin, Ona Rages, and I were to go to school at Florence in a buggy pulled by a horse named Prince. The horse had been purchased by my uncle, Wes Rages, for that purpose. Another cousin, Anna Rages, who later married Harold Eldenburg, was to teach at Harmony School north of Florence. The three of us used the horse and buggy to take Anna down to George Worthley's home and she walked the rest of the way to school. Ona and I would go on to Florence to school. Then we would go back to the Worthley home and pick Anna up in the evening and return home. Those daily trips often were very cold and rainy trips. The buggy had a top but no heater except a lap robe or blanket to keep warm.

During 1934 the old white frame schoolhouse was scheduled to be torn down. The new brick building was erected only after a lot of controversial debate whether the building should be built. A prize fist fight exploded between two of the prominent residents of the school district over this matter.

The new building wasn't quite ready for use in

September of 1934 so the entire student body went up town in Florence to go to school. The high school kids plus the upper four classes of the grade school had school upstairs over what is now the Ambush Restaurant. There was just a curtain between the high school and the grade school. The lower classes of the grade school used a room in the back of the old barbershop. The teachers during my two years were: Dorothy Houston, high school; Kenneth Kirchner, upper four grades; and Ruth Henderson, lower four grades.

The seats we used in our stay in the block building were 2 x 12 boards setting on bales of straw or hay. As I remember, the brick schoolhouse was built under the W.P.A. program put in to use soon after Franklin Roosevelt became president in November, 1932.

I regard the two years of school at Florence to be among the best I had. We had good teachers and most of the students went to learn as much as they could. Many of the high school students left the Florence School with an E grade average. Perhaps this was the best way we had of thanking our parents for the sacrifices they made in our behalf during the Great Depression of the 1930's.

Submitted by Lester Dittmer



This bus ran between Florence and Stover Schools in 1939. The girls in the windows were visiting school that day. They are Blanche Thompson, Ruby Tieman and Wilma Michaelkowsky. 1st Row: Bus driver Luke Hartman, Ruby Rehmer, ? Holating, ? Holating, Mary Maxine Bremer, Delilah Duvel, Leon Swope, Leona Hartman, Mildred Zimmerchied, Mary Thompson, Harold Albers, Vernon Holsen, Otto Zimmerchied. 2nd Row: Teacher Lillie Warnke, Evelyn Masters, Olga Munsterman, ? Weymuth, Nadine Oehrke, Lucille Eldenburg, Richard Holsten, Reno Warnke, Ernest Baack, Ernestine Baack, Norman Munsterman, Alfred Hicken.



Florence school in 1915

FLORENCE SCHOOL

Teacher, Mable Holtzen

1st Row:

?, Matt Holtzen, ?, Ernest Holtzen, ?, ?,
Jim Tieman, Forrest Hampy

2nd Row:

?, Helen (Casdorh) Yocum, ?, ?, ?, ?,
Grace Fowler, Roma Siegel, Bonnie
Fowler Worthley

3rd Row:

?, ?, Alma (Casdorh) Brauer, Bessie
(Fowler) Brown, ?, Pearl Rasa

Back Row:

Marvin Johnson, ? Tieman
The rest are unknown.



The Florence School in 1930

Row 1: Earl Worthley, Lolen Bremer, Leroy Oehrke, Leland Rasa, Orville Woolery, Leo Carver, Clyde Rehmer.

Row 2: Irene Brown, Ruby Tieman, Gerladine Faulwell, Blanch Thompson, Ruby Rehmer, Mary Maxine Bremer, Dorothy E. White, ?, ?

Row 3: Anita White, Mildred Zimmerschied, Nadine Oehrke, Delia Duval, Ruby Lehmer, Helen Bremer, ?, Lucille Eldenburg, Leona Hartman

Row 4: Vincent Hatfield, Otto Zimmerschied, Harold Lewis

Row 5: Walter Shick, Oliver Steele, Kalo Bottcher

Teacher, Mrs. Boyd



Florence Basketball Team - 1936-37

Kenneth Kirchner, Leo Carver, Otto Zimmerschied, Clyde Rahmer, Leland Rasa, Wayne Montgomery, Kalo Boatcher



Florence School, October 25, 1905

VICTORY SCHOOL AND CHURCH



Victory School 1907

In 1907, records show Clara Robertson was teacher and in 1908 the teacher's name was Louise Diefendorf.

Two teachers who taught there and still live in the community are Earl Born and Mrs. Leo (Agnes) Wray.

The last school year at Victory was in 1946.

Like many churches starting members met in the

school. 1907-1912. Pastors were C.H. Cramer, H.A. Sanders, J.S. Price. William Cox was clerk.

When the church disbanded, many of the members united with Mt. Olive Baptist.

Around 1936 some Mennonites living in the community held services at Victory for a while.

Submitted by
Nora Cramer

FAMILY HISTORIES

ETHELDRED BASS

The first Bass of whom our family has any record is Etheldred Bass who was born about 1806 in Bullitt County, Kentucky. He married on August 17, 1836 in Bullitt County to Mathilda McDonald, who was born in 1813 in Kentucky.

Etheldred and Mathilda had children named:

1. Mary C. Bass, born 1837 in Kentucky;
2. Henry W. Bass, born 1839 in Kentucky;

3. Josephus C. Bass, Born August 4, 1841, Louisville, Kentucky, died April 1, 1920, married first to Margaret Sousley who died in February, 1878 (Margaret had sisters named Mary Elizabeth Sousley and Sinderella Sousley), then to Mary Susan Haley;
4. James Frederick Bass, born September 15, 1842, died August 30, 1893, married

November 12, 1877 to Mary Elizabeth Sousley, born September 29, 1858, died November 2, 1945;

5. Elizabeth A. Bass, born 1844, died 1919, married to Adam H. Smith who was born in 1843. Both of them are buried in the Otterville cemetery.

6. William Bass, born 1849.

Josephus C. and Margaret Bass had children named Hardin Taylor Bass and Emma Florence Bass; Josephus C. and Mary Susan Haley/Bass had children named William A. Bass, James Frederick Bass, and Lula Bass.

Josephus Bass enlisted for service in the Civil War with the Union Army on August 25, 1862 at Caseyville, Kentucky and was mustered into Company I of the 35th Regiment of the Kentucky Volunteer Infantry as a private. He was discharged at Louisville, Kentucky on December 29, 1864.

Following his discharge in 1864, Josephus remained in Kentucky until 1874, then migrated to Pettis County, Missouri. His first wife died apparently in Pettis County, though her burial location is unknown to us. Josephus' second wife, Mary Susan Haley, died July 26, 1917, and she is buried beside Josephus in the Flat Creek Baptist Cemetery in Pettis County. Joseph C. Bass died on April 1, 1920 in Sedalia, Missouri. The Application for Reimbursement which was filed by his son Hardin Taylor Bass on June 19, 1920 indicates that Josephus' total funeral bill with McLaughlin Furniture and Undertaking Company amounted to only \$130.00!

James Frederick Bass married Myrtle Rozella Mitchell of Morgan County and became the parents of James William Bass, Elmer Joseph Bass, Junior Franklin Bass, Kenneth Paul Bass, Mary Abigail Bass (died at birth on June 30, 1926), Chester Albert Bass, James Lloyd Bass and James Earl Bass.

On May 20, 1990, a gray granite military marker was dedicated at the site of Josephus' grave in the Flat Creek Cemetery. Many years ago, James Frederick and Myrtle Bass placed a concrete marker at Josephus' grave, and it had begun to deteriorate. So, after some inquiry, it was determined that a government marker could be requested. The dedication was done with ceremony and a responsive reading. A young great-great-grandson of Hardin Taylor Bass placed an American flag on Josephus' grave. In December, 1991, new tombstones were placed on the graves of William A. Bass, Kenneth Paul Bass, Junior Franklin Bass, Mary

Abigail Bass, and James T. and Mary Abigail Mitchell in the Smithton Cemetery and on the grave of Josephus Bass' wife Mary Susan Bass in the Flat Creek Baptist Cemetery. What a good feeling it gave each of us who saw this project through! The final resting places of our lived ones were now identified.

Submitted by
Dorothy Bass

BAUGHMAN

Mr. William Baughman was born August 30, 1814 in Richland County, Ohio. On February 26, 1829 he married Miss Rachel Slater. She was born March 1822 also in Richland County, Ohio. They moved to Florence, Missouri (Richland township). William Baughman was one of the first postmasters and one of the best blacksmiths in this section. He got a lot of business from Versailles and Tipton. Mr. Baughman served as representative from Morgan County in the Legislature for five years and was very active in all the early developments of Florence.



Albert and Mary Baughman and son Ray, 1926

A son, David, was born March 24, 1842. He grew up on the farm and married Mary Jones. They

were blessed with several children one of whom was Albert Cleveland Baughman, born April 26, 1889.

Albert spent his early life in the Florence community until he was called to serve in World War I. After returning to his home surroundings, he married Miss Mary Annie Sluder in 1923. Both had attended Oakland School in their youth. The family farm and school were located about four miles west of Florence.

Albert died in 1928. He spent the last four years in a hospital in Colorado Springs, Colorado. One son was born to Albert and Mary on February 16, 1924 named Albert Ray Baughman. His life too was spent on the farm located three miles southwest of Florence on the spot where the Butterfield livery stable stood back in 1858. The Overland mail was carried by stage-coach and pulled by horses which were changed at this station known as Munholland Station.

Ray attended Oakland school located five miles west of Florence the first eight years, two years of high school at Florence, and graduated from Stover High School in 1943. He married Miss Beatrice Marie Merk of Florence June 1, 1947. She also attended Oakland and graduated from Stover High School. They have three children: Carolyn June, Duane Ray, and Maureen Beatrice all who attended Florence Grade School and graduated from Stover High School.

Ray now owns the Sluder and Baughman farms where his parents grew up. During the Civil War, Governor Jackson spent the night of the Cole Camp battle on the Sluder farm west of Florence before going on to Springfield, Missouri.

Ray farms, specializing in poultry, and owns and operates Baughman Feed Service which delivers feed from several mills for livestock production.

Ray and his wife Beatrice have been active in the United Church of Christ in Florence all their lives. Ray has served on the Union Cemetery board for almost 40 years and was instrumental in establishing the Perpetual Care Fund for the continuing care of the cemetery.

Duane Ray, Ray and Beatrice's son born September 30, 1950, has chosen to stay in the Florence community and work in the family business. He has driven a truck since graduating from high school. He purchased the George Grupe farm and lives there with his wife, Theresa, and son, Garrin Duane, born December 28, 1990. As can be seen by this account, the Baughman families

have stayed close to this rural community for the past 150 years farming or working in farm related business.

Submitted by
Beatrice Baughman

HERMAN BOATCHER

The first home of Herman Sr., Herman, Henry and Katie Windler Boatcher was north of Florence until 1909. They then moved to a farm north of Stover with their two sons. In 1921 the couple moved to Stover. Their home was on a corner south of Christ Lutheran Church. They lived there until Herman Sr. died in 1949. Katie lived on until 1953.

The house north of Florence is no longer there, but the Leo Carvers now live on that farm.

Submitted by
Alwilda Boatcher Shore

DEIDRICH BREMER

Diedrich Bremer (1817-1900) was known to be living in Morgan County, state of Missouri in the year 1850. He was born in Hanover Germany. He married Katherina Lemler and had two sons, John and Louis, both born in the state of Louisiana. John was born in 1841 and married Hanna Betsover. They had six children, Lula, Kate, Betty, Etta, Louis and Henry. John is buried in St. Louis, Missouri. Louis was born 1843 and never married. He disappeared enroute from Florence, Missouri to Syracuse, Missouri during the Civil War years. Katherina died and Diedrich married Carolina Adalia Siegel (1826-1887). She was born in Germany as well. They had seven children, Ludwig Louis, Diedrich, Louisa, Henry, Peter, Herman, and August. Diedrich and Caroline are buried at the United Church of Christ Cemetery, Florence, Missouri.

Ludwig Louis Bremer (1849-1901) married Sophia Schlichtig (1852-1941). They had three children, Louisa (lived three days), William Diedrich, and Henry August.

Diedrich (1855-1923) married Betty Wilkerson (1857-1932) and had one son, Frank.

Louisa (1855-1923) married Henry Brauer (1848-1932). They had ten children, Freddie (lived seventeen days), John, Annie, Adeline, August, Sena, Louis, Chris, Aubrey, Helen Alalia.

Henry (1856-1927) married Julie Schlichtig (1861-1951) and had two children, Clara (died as

a child), and Herman.



Bill and Lula Rodenbach Bremer

Peter (1856-1927) married Larua Watts on January 11, 1880. They had one child, Laura, who lived in a retarded home in St. Louis, Missouri and died as a child. No further knowledge of wife Laura. Peter then married Lizzie Blanken on December 1, 1881 and had two children, Mae and John.

Herman (1860-1941) married Anna Demand (1861-1936) and had three children, Elmer, Maggie and Lula.

August (1866-1939) married Lena Kurtz (1869-1948) and had nine children, Harry Richard, Mina (Minnie) Anna Katrena, Clarence Louis, Eda Anna Marie, Agusta Clary, Lula Sofea, Amos Heinrich, Else Marie and Hersel Elwood.

William (Bill) Diedrich Bremer (1876-1943) married Louise (Lulu) Rodenbach (1878-1949). They had five children, Edwin (1902-1963), Carl (1904-1976), Omer (1909-1972), Paul (1913-1978), and Olga (1904-1978).

Carl Wilbur Bremer married Zelma Lillian Houchens (1911-1988) and had four sons, Lloyd

(1933), Robert (1935), William Darrell (1940), and Keith (1951).



Edwin Bremer Family. Helen (Brauer), Elmo, Jim, Mary, Lou, Monte and Edwin

Carl Lloyd Bremer married Bessie Ellen Hord of Green Ridge, Missouri. Ellen's mother, Mary Smith lived about four years with her foster parents Rufus and Addie Dinwiddie on the place where Louise Mergen now resides. Lloyd and Ellen Bremer are the fourth generation to live on the farm place west of Florence.

Keith lives near by. Edwin's son, Monte, married Leila Dawes and lives in Florence. They have two children, Sherain and Gerald.

Submitted by
Ellen Bremer

CARL BREMER FAMILY



Seated: Carl, Zelma (Houchen), Bob
Standing: Keith, Darrell, Lloyd

Carl Wilbur Bremer married Zelma Lillian Houchens (1911-1988) and had four sons, Carl Lloyd (1933), Robert (1935), William Darrell

(1940), and Keith (1951).

Carl Lloyd Bremer married Bessie Ellen Hoad of Green Ridge, Missouri. They have three daughters; Deana, Diane and Michele. Deana married Mike Hancock, Sedalia, Missouri. Diane married Kevin Stonum and has three sons, Reed, Dillion, Seth. Michele married Kevin Lee Paris.

Robert married Norma Jean Lemler in November 1957 and have five children; Terry Wayne, Debbie, Lisa, Kevin and William Patrick (Billy Pat). Terry Wayne married Glenda McCubbin on June 13, 1981 and have two children, Tricia and Cassie. Debbie married John Jenson in March 1989 and have no children. Lisa married David Hughes in May 1986 and have one son, Jace, born January 12, 1990. Kevin married Tammy Trout in July 1990. Billy Pat is single.

William Darrell Bremer married Janet Carver and had two children; Barbara and Jeff. Darrell later was divorced and married Kenda Spalding. Barbara married Robert Allen Smith in September 1991, and had one son, Daniel Wesley, born January 16, 1990. Jeff is not married.

Keith Bremer married Sharon Troutmann and has one son, Justin. He is now divorced and lives near-by Florence.

Submitted by
Barbara Bremer-Smith

CARL A. BRETALL

Carl A. and Bertha A. Bretall came from Germany and settled in Illinois in the early 1870's. In the late '70's, they moved to Florence, Missouri. Harmon C., Fred C., and Clara were all born on the Bretall farm in the early 1900's. The original home was four rooms. The farm is located two miles west of Florence on DD Road. The original farmhouse was torn down in 1980.

Herman C. Bretall and twelve other farmers bought the first Steam Engine and Thrashing Machine in the area in 1920. The twelve couldn't agree on how to operate the machine, so Herman purchased it in 1922. He also had the first Combine, purchased in 1938. Herman did a lot of harvesting for the farmers in the community. Clara Bretall-Zimmerschied and children, Otto and Millie lived with the Bretalls after the death of her husband in 1923. Then in 1941 Clara and Otto moved back to their farm near Otterville.

Fred Bretall married Alma Bottcher in 1927 and they were blessed with eight children, Frances

Bretall-Burkhalter, Carl A. Bretall, Norma Jean Bretall-Lecahi, Joan Bretall-Fallin, Marion Bretall-Foches, Rhoda Bretall-Moore, Bill Bretall, and Bob Bretall. Six of the eight children were born at the farm home.

The Bretalls accumulated 392 acres of farmland; raising corn, wheat and other crops. A dairy herd was started in 1950 with Victor Burkholter in charge. Herman Bretall was very active in the Florence Community, serving on the Telephone Board of Directors and the MFA Board of Directors. All of the Bretall family was active in the St. John's Church, and they all attended school at the Florence School. Herman and Fred Bretall lived on the farm until their death in 1972 and 1973. Memories of the farm and of Florence will always be a part of our lives.

Submitted by
Frances Burkhalter

BERNHARDT BRODERSEN



Ben and Pearl Steele Brodersen, 1917

Bernardt (Ben) Brodersen, (1894-1953), was born in Morgan County and lived most of his life near

Florence. In 1917 he married Pearl Steele (1900-1964). They had nine children: Velma, Roy, Marianna, Leo, Dorothy, Viola, Charles, John, and Elmer.

Velma, (Mrs. F.W.) Bishop, (1918), has seven children: Billy, Roy, Lloyd, Forrest, Ruth, David, and Martha. Billy has two sons: Jesse and Christopher. A son Casey died in 1980 at the age of four months. Roy has two children: Greg and Monica (Mrs. Todd) Gardner. Greg has two sons: Brant and Brendan. Lloyd has two daughters: Adeana and DeAndra. Forrest has three children: Eric, Emily and Elaine. Ruth, (Mrs. Robert) Young, has three sons: Kevin, Brian, and Brent. David has two children: Brandon and Michelle. Martha, (Mrs. Rick) Embry, has three children: Aaron, Alicia, and Kyle.

Roy, (1919-1961), was married to Janice Brown and they had a son: Danny. Danny has two sons: Shane and Chad.

Marianna, (Mrs. Everett) Paxson, (1921), has two children: Mary and Roy. Mary (Mrs. Teddy) McCleery. Roy has four children: Rick, Randy, Ryan, and Rebecca.

Leo, (1924), is married to Lucille Eldenburg and they have two children: Judy and Gary. Judy, (Mrs. Robert) Page, has two children: Brent and Lindy. Gary has two sons: Scott and Kevin.

Dorothy, (Mrs. James) Ward, (1927), has four children: Darrell, Gerry, Evelyn, and Charlotte. Darrell has two children: Bret and Melissa. Gerry has two sons: Jeramy and John. Evelyn, (Mrs. Dennis) Smethers, has three children: Amy, Stacey, and Derek. Charlotte, (Mrs. Alan) Dunn, has a daughter: Shannon.

Viola (Mrs. Jackie) Phillips, (1930), has four children: Ron, Bob, Cathy, and Donna. Ron has two children: Celeste and Walker, and five step-children: Christopher, Chadley, Chaundra, Caryn, and Clinton. Bob has four children: Preston, Bobbi, Quenton, and Trenton. Cathy, (Mrs. Ray) Ellison, has two sons: Jeramy and Jason. Donna, (Mrs. John) Nevels, has four children: Adam, Christopher, Tasha, and Seth.

Charles, (1936), is married to Meleta Homan and they have a son: Donald.

John, (1938), is married to Sandra Self and they have three children: David, Dale and Diana. Dale has two step-children: Jennifer and Cory.

Elmer, (1940), is married to Darlene Homan and they have three children: Billy, Barry, and Brenda.

Submitted by Judy Page

BROOKS

Richard and Kay Brooks were married July 9, 1974, and settled in the Florence area in July, 1976, on a small farm about two miles west of Florence. Richard was born in Jerseyville, Illinois, May 3, 1948, and had lived with his parents, Rayburn and Nola Brooks, in Sedalia since 1958. Kay was born in Cameron, Missouri, April 11, 1953, and since age two had lived in the Carrollton, Missouri, vicinity with her parents, Roy and Avon Hudson.

They have three children, Dawn, born December 9, 1967, in Great Falls, Montana, and Adam and Justin, born April 6, 1977, in Sedalia, Missouri. Dawn married Terry Bergan of Smithton, in June, 1986, and they currently reside in Fort Worth, Texas, where Dawn works for an interior design firm. Adam and Justin have just completed their ninth year of school where they are involved in sports, band, math club, and various other activities. During the past four summers, much of their time has been spent visiting and working with Grant and Abie Beck on their ranch in Pinedale, Wyoming.

Richard is a bookkeeper with the Sedalia Water Department where he has been employed since 1969. Kay teaches at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg. They attend St. John's United Church of Christ in Florence and they are actively involved in various other local organizations. In addition to their other activities, they also own and operate a small grocery and deli, The Florence Trading Post, which they opened in September, 1990.

DR. ELISHA MEEKINS CARR

Elisha Meekins Carr was born in Virginia on January 1, 1830, the eldest of the nine children of Mead and Elizabeth Gillum Carr. The family soon went to Kentucky. When he was one year old, he came with his parents to Cooper County, Missouri.

By land entries and purchase, his father acquired large land holdings in Cooper County, including the large farm known in late years as the "Doc" Nelson farm. Their homesite was the scene of the great Democrat Rally staged in 1924 when Dr. Nelson was the Democrat nominee for governor of Missouri. There Elisha Meekins and his seven sisters were reared. His only brother died at age eleven.

Farm laborers were not available for hire, so, even though their families had not been slave

owners, Mead Carr, like other area plantation owners, purchased a few slaves to secure the help needed. While very young, Elisha Meekins began to realize that slavery was wrong. As he grew, so did his hatred of the slavery system.

A brilliant scholar, Elisha Meekins early acquired all the schooling his locality had to offer. He then wrote to a grandfather in Virginia, asking for help in securing a higher education, to which the grandfather agreed. Although quite young, he was accepted by the University of Virginia, from which he was graduated from the School of Medicine with an M.D. degree. The family still possesses a letter from his school, written to his father, reporting on his progress and indicating their amazement at his knowledge. When new units were introduced, he seemed to already know all about them.

Following his graduation, he went to St. Louis, where he taught in the Washington University School of Medicine for a few years in order to reimburse his grandfather.

He then went to Florence, Missouri, where he set up his medical practice, and operated a drug store. He was said to be Morgan County's first physician with a medical school degree. In those days, most doctors secured their education by working as apprentices with other doctors.

The date of his move to Florence is not known, but it was prior to May 1, 1861, when he gave one of his powerful anti-slavery lectures to a large gathering of area residents, pronouncing slavery's doom.

When the Civil War broke out, he was imbued with a fervor to do his part to eliminate slavery, just as his grandfather, Meekins Carr, had fought in the Revolutionary War to free America from British rule. He tried repeatedly to enlist in the Union Army, but, as often, was rejected because of his near-sightedness.

On July 7, 1866, Dr. Elisha Meekins Carr was married to a young widow, Louisa Jane Woolery Stephens. They were the parents of six children. Further information on their family is included in the Louisa Jane Carr biography.

Dr. Carr wrote beautiful poetry. Though he wrote profusely, only a few poems that were published and saved as clippings have been preserved. One of his poems was written about the death of his very close friend, Mr. Hummel, the Florence pottery factory owner. He was noted for his mathematical skills, mentally computing the answers quickly and accurately. He was an ac-

complished violinist. He was also a linguist and had mastered several languages.

Dr. Carr treated everyone who called for him. He refused to charge the poor who had little with which to pay, and did not pressure others to pay their accounts. Sad to say, some took advantage of his generosity and never paid him.

The years of making house calls on horseback in all kinds of weather, and at any hour of the day or night, took their toll on Dr. Carr's health. Unable to continue this rigorous life, he had to give up his medical practice. For a few years he accepted teaching positions in Morgan and surrounding counties.

After failing health forced him to stop teaching, he remained in Florence a few years. He then returned to Cooper County, where he lived a few years before going to Sedalia, where he died August 9, 1908. He is buried in Crown Hill cemetery there.

Dr. Carr's only two granddaughters living at the time of this printing both reside in Stover, Missouri. They are Nellie Mae Rastorfer a Nora Edith Wilkes, daughters of William Thomas and Lillian Belle Carr McCray.

Submitted by
Nellie Mae McCray Rastorfer

LOUISA JANE CARR

Louisa Jane Woolery was born in Cooper County, Missouri on September 30, 1845, the daughter of Lawrence and Elizabeth Beeman Woolery.

When Louisa was a teenager, her parents died. She maintained the home and continued the rearing of her three brothers and one sister.

She was a certified teacher in Cooper County, and taught several terms there.

When she was quite young, she was married to a Mr. Stephens. Because of his illness and untimely death, this marriage was of short duration.

On July 7, 1866, she was married to Dr. Elisha Meekins Carr. They resided in Florence, Missouri, where Dr. Carr was a medical doctor. She, like her husband, could look back to forebears who had fought in the Revolutionary War: two great-grandfathers, Lawrence Woolery and John Smith the 7th. John Smith the 7th was a descendant of Captain John Smith, leader of the Jamestown, Virginia, colony, who, in 1608, told his fellow settlers in a time of critical food shortage, "He who does not work shall not eat."

Dr. and Mrs. Carr had six children. At least the four older children were born in Florence. The two younger children may have been born after they had moved to a residence not far from the town. Their children were: Birdie (January 30, 1868-June 4, 1928)—married Jesse McCray; children, Lillian (died in infancy) and Eula. After Jesse's death, she married Phineas Shepard; children, Edna, Frank, Edith.

Lillian Belle (December 3, 1870-June 20, 1962)—married William Thomas McCray; Thirteen children, Golda, Ola, Effie, Elsie, John, Tom, Lillian, Nellie Mae, Bonnie, Arthur, Ora, Alice, and Nora.

Walter (September 17, 1875-January 22, 1941)—Never married, died in Montana.

Myrtle—married—Barr; no children.

Arthur—died in Oklahoma October 3, 1898; age about seventeen.

George (July 13, 1884-August 5, 1970—married Amelia Schlichtig; one daughter, Hulda.

The only one of their children who remained in Morgan County was Lillian Belle. She and her husband, William Thomas McCray, remained in Morgan County all their lives, and reared their thirteen children there. Only their daughter, Nellie Mae McCray Rastorfer, remained in Morgan County all her life. At this time she and her sister, Nora Edith Wilkes, reside in Stover.

The Carr's only other surviving grandchild is Frank Shepard of Oklahoma.

A few years after the death of Dr. Carr, Louisa went to Harrison, Montana, to be near her sons, Walter and George. She died there November 4, 1938, and is buried in the Harrison Cemetery.

Submitted by
Nellie Mae McCray Rastorfer

CARVER

Birchard and Mamie Carver were married February 11, 1904. They farmed north of Florence where they also reared six children; Edward, Bur-nice, Harlin, Letha, Carman, and Leo. They had eighteen grandchildren. Carman (Bealer), lives on the home place. Nearby are five other descendants; son Leo, Grandson Bill Carver, Granddaughter Joann McGee, Grandson-in-law Norman Worthley, and Great-granddaughter Sally Douglas.

CARVER FAMILIES

John Carver (1576-1621) became the first governor of the Plymouth Colony immediately after signing the Mayflower Compact. Carver was born in Nottinghamshire, England. He joined the Puritan Church in 1610 which had taken refuge in Leiden, Holland, from the Church of England. He was a merchant and became a deacon in the Puritan Church a few years later.

Carver was married but the Mayflower passenger list did not show him to have children. If he did they would have crossed at a later date.

Carver died in 1621, after four months as governor of the New World.

The year 1850, we find another John Carver with his wife Sarah and two children in Osage Township of Morgan County. This was John Carver and Sally Decker from Ohio and our line of Carvers.

In 1860, Sally Decker Carver and five boys were on the farm in Richland Township but no mention is made of husband John. Their sons were John, Sylvester, Silas, Willie, and Samuel.

In 1864 or 1865, Sally Carver married John William Cramer whose first wife had died. He needed help raising his five children. So with Sally's five children that made ten children plus three children of their own for a total of thirteen.

Grandpa William Cramer, John's father, married a young German girl, Catherine Kurtz, and had five more children to add to his six from a previous marriage. When his cabin burned down, everyone had to move into a one-room log cabin for the winter. That's how my Grandmother Anna L. Cramer met my Grandfather Samuel L. Carver just north and west of Florence, Missouri, where I spent many happy childhood days with uncles, aunts, and cousins.

Submitted by
Don Carver

CHILES

Elmer and Betty Chiles moved to Florence, Missouri, on June 5, 1989, from Sedalia, Missouri where Elmer worked for the Sedalia Park, from which he retired. He now operates "Elmer's Saw Shop." When they moved to Florence they purchased their home from their daughter Kathy Nolting (Mrs. Gary Nolting) who had lived here for two years.

Elmer and Betty have three children, two girls, and one boy, four grandchildren, and two

great-grandchildren. Their son, Dean, lives two houses from the store. He is confined to a wheel chair and he moved to Florence to be near his parents. A classmate from school in Sedalia, Darrell Brewer, lives with him.

Betty and Elmer are both members of the local Lions Club.

COOK

Cecil M. Cook and his wife Sharyn moved to the Florence area from Otterville, Missouri on September 1, 1966, Cecil is a farm manager and Sharyn a Housewife. They have two children: Kenneth Cook and Kathryn Cook.



Cecil and Sharyn Cook, 1991

Shortly after moving here our barn burned. Two years later we build a new barn.

Fifteen years ago we added two rooms and new siding on the house. Our daughter, Kathy, was born in 1968 and lived all her life in the area until her marriage to George Garrison. Kathy and George reside in Sedalia. Kenny married Kathy Bunn and they have two children: Joshua, born June 17, 1988 and Amanda, born January 1986. Kenny and Kathy reside in Yoder, Indiana.

We celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary on February 12, 1991. We are both members of Bethlehem Baptist Church and Cecil is a deacon and music director there. Sharyn is church clerk and secretary-treasurer for Bethlehem Cemetery.

Sharyn is a member of the local Kola Club and both are members of the local Lions Club.

We have many acquaintances and friends in the area and we treasure them all.

Submitted by
Cecil and Sharyn Cook

CALEB CRAMER

Records indicate the earliest members of the Cramer family to reside around the Florence area was Caleb H. Cramer born November 5, 1847. He married Nancy Newman in 1862. They had 14 children.



Caleb and Nancy Cramer and her mother Mary Finley

Caleb entered the ministry 1877. In 1886 he was ordained as a minister at Mt. Olive Baptist Church five miles northeast of Florence. Churches he pastored include Mt. Olive, where he and his wife were charter members, Bethlehem, Victory, Florence and Mt. Carmel. The Versailles Statesman in 1927 stated he had married 125 couples and had conducted 225 funerals. He was also a soldier in the Civil War.

William J. Cramer, son of Caleb and Nancy Newman Cramer, was a farmer and carpenter. He married Maggie E. (Nellie) Weaver on December 23, 1900. They had 10 children. Will and Nellie resided in the Florence community all their married life. Nellie's father, while immigrating to America as a small child, was the only member of his family to survive the voyage. Too young to say his name they gave him the name "Weaver".

Dale, the youngest child of Will and Nellie, married Nora Frances Steele on February 12, 1944. He served in Korea. Upon returning home he was employed by the Missouri Pacific Railroad. He worked there 12 years until his position was relocated to Arkansas. Not wanting to move he started doing carpenter work and continued until he retired.

In 1953 Dale and Nora moved to their present

location six miles north of Florence. They moved to the farm Nora's grandfather Steele purchased in 1902. Nora's parents, Edward and Gertrude McNeal Steele lived on the farm also.

Dale and Nora had five children: Kay, Diane, Pam, Dale Lynn and Kelli. Kay married Kenneth Moon and lives outside of Florence. They have two daughters: Kimberly and Kristi. Kimberly Wells is currently attending nursing school. She has two children: Mallory and Tyler. Kristi is in high school. She loves her horses and competes in horse shows in the summer.

Diane died of leukemia when she was almost three.

Pam married Jack Combs and lives in Harrisonville, Missouri. They have a daughter, Cheri, who was 16 in July, and a son, Ryan, who is active in sports.

Dale Lynn is in school at the University of Missouri, Rolla. He is studying mechanical engineering.

Kelli attends school at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg. Speech pathology is her major.

WILLIAM CRAMER

William Cramer was born in the year 1791 in Pennsylvania. By way of Ohio, he came to Morgan County, Missouri, along with his wife Betsy and his children: Jonathan William Cramer, Mary Cramer, Samuel E. Cramer, Elizabeth Cramer, David B. Cramer and George Washington Cramer, arriving in 1839.

In the 1850 Morgan County Census, the William Cramer family was listed as Household 503; Jonathan and Ann Davis were their neighbors on one side, and the William Mitchell family were neighbors on the other side. William Cramer's daughter Mary had married William B. Mitchell on July 5, 1845.

At the death of Betsy Cramer, William's wife, he married about 1853 to Catharina E. Kurtz. They had children named Emaline (Emily) Cramer, Anna Lavina Cramer, Daniel F. Cramer, John Henry Frederick Cramer, and Winniford Y.A. Cramer.

William's son, Jonathan William Cramer, married Sarah Blassengym who was born in 1825 in Ohio; she died by 1863 for he married Sarah Kathrine Decker/Carver who was born April 9, 1825 in Columbus, Ohio (died February 26, 1904) and was the widow of John William Carver. (She

had children named John, Sylvester, William, Silas B. and Samuel L. Carver.) After her marriage to Jonathan William Cramer, they had children named Eliza B. Cramer, George W. Cramer and Christena B. Cramer.

Mary Cramer was born in 1826 in Delaware County, Ohio and on July 5, 1845, she married William B. Mitchell, son of William and Mary (Polly) Basye/Mitchell. Their family is outlined in the section relating to William Mitchell.

William and Betsy Cramer's son, Samuel E. Cramer, married on July 3, 1851 to Matilda Harris. After her death in March, 1858, he was married on September 4, 1959 to Susania A. Baughman/Cramer who was born September, 1832, in Ohio. Susania had been previously married to Samuel E. Cramer's brother, George Washington Cramer. Samuel's children by Matilda were Martha, Silas, Ida, Georgia A., David and William F. Cramer. Samuel E. Cramer enlisted at Florence on April 2, 1862 and served as a private in Company F of the 7th Regiment of the Missouri State Militia Cavalry, mustering out on August 31, 1862. He died on July 1, 1888. Susania, on January 2, 1890, remarried to Robert Robertson.

Elizabeth Cramer was born February 16, 1831 in Delaware County, Ohio. She was married August 18, 1833 to George Washington Maness, who was born in Bunker Hill, Indiana. Elizabeth died May 29, 1910 in Morgan County. They had children named Mary J., James Franklin, William, Elizabeth F., Georgean, Nancy Adaline, Charlotte, John, Joseph Washington, Charles H.J. and Ann N. Maness.

Another son of William and Betsy Cramer, David B. Cramer, married on June 16, 1851 to Lavina J. Stephens. Inadvertantly, their marriage was not recorded until April 3, 1875! At Lavina's death, David married on June 27, 1875 to Nancy J. Todd. At her death, he married on November 23, 1890, Ella Johnson. He had children only by Lavina though...fourteen...just as Rev. Caleb H. and Nancy Cramer had. David B. Cramer enlisted first on June 17, 1861 at Georgetown and served in Company H of the Pettis County Home Guards; he was discharged at Georgetown on October 23, 1861. He tried unsuccessfully for a number of years to procure a pension for his military service but never quite managed it. He died April 15, 1903.

George Washington Cramer married Susania A. Baughman on February 23, 1858. They had children named Mary and Martha. George

Washington Cramer died February 25, 1859 and Susania subsequently married Samuel E. Cramer, George W.'s older brother.

After William Cramer's death about 1872, his widow, Catharina E. Kurtz/Cramer remarried on July 3, 1884 to Martin Miller Van Ousley. He also was a Civil War veteran and had been married previously. He was married first to Martha A. Sinclair; his second wife, by whom he had two children, was Nancy S. Greenstreet. His children by Nancy were George W. Ousley and John G. Ousley.

William Cramer's Last Will and Testament was signed by him on March 25, 1871. His signature was witnessed by John H. Fisher and Lycurgus J. Baughman. The witnesses appeared in the Probate Court of Morgan County on February 9, 1872 in front of Probate Judge John C. McCoy and presented the Will of William Cramer, stating that they had signed the Will as witnesses at the testator's request and in his presence. And William Cramer knew how to divide! "I give, devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Catharina Cramer all of my estate, Real, Personal and mixed so long as she remains my widow. I give, devise and bequeath unto my sons and daughters to-wit: Emeline C. Cramer, Anna L. Cramer, Daniel F. Cramer, John H.F. Cramer and Wyniford Y.A. Cramer and all that may hereafter be born after the death or marriage of my wife Catharina all of my estate to be equally divided among my said children above named or that may hereafter be born when the youngest one arrives at the age of twenty-one years. This Will excludes and the intention is to exclude the children of my former wives from any benefit of my estate, having in former days given to them more than I am able to bequeath to my youngest children and helpless ones named above. The children excluded are as follows: Jonathan Cramer, Mary Michel (Mitchell), Samuel E. Cramer, Elizabeth Maness and David B. Cramer. I do nominate and appoint my son Daniel F. Cramer when he becomes of age to be the executor of this my Last Will and Testament. The proper Court will appoint an executor who will act until the time above specified."

Can you believe that when I started researching the Cramer family, I thought that Jim's great-grandmother Mary Cramer/Mitchell had only two brothers?

Submitted by
Dorothy Bass

JOHAN HERMAN DOHRMAN

Johan H. Dohrman was born in 1815 at Friedrichsdorf, Hannover Germany. We do not know when he arrived in Missouri. He married Maria A. Brunkhorst who was born July 18, 1826. He died in 1861 and she in 1902. They were farmers. Two sons were born to them, John and Herman. Herman was born in November, 1854. He married Philippina Christina Mertgen of near Florence, Missouri. She was born September 11, 1856. They were married by Rev. Bortfeld of Florence. The Dohrmans were parents of one daughter, Ida Catharina, born January 6, 1886.

It has been said that Herman froze his ears while taking a load of hogs to market in Smithton. Herman died in 1932 and his wife in 1948.

Ida married Charles Thomas Page on December 15, 1915, and they lived in the northwest part of Morgan County. After the death of her father, Charlie and Ida moved to her parent's farm to care for her mother.

The shortcut to Florence in the early days was to cross Haw Creek at the Dohrman Ford. Ida told that as a small child she was almost swept out of the wagon driven by her father while crossing the creek during high water. Ida's older cousin Augusta Dohrman Siegel caught her and saved her life.

There are stories about a gangster named Pretty Boy Floyd who was seen in the area going to farm houses asking for food. Also gypsies were feared and a watchful eye was kept for them. They were known for taking things that did not belong to them.

After the death of her parents, Rudy and Flora Rehmer, Geneva Fay came to live with Charlie and Ida Page in 1937. In 1940 they adopted Geneva.

Geneva Page and Cleo "Bill" Hampy were married in October, 1951. Bill died in 1986. Their four children are Douglas Brent, Michael Ray, Jeanette Kay, and Kerry Dean. Brent married Connie Teeter and their daughters are Liz and Kellee. They live near Smithton. Michael lives in Texas. Jeanette married Glenn Wylie and their children are Anna Marie and Scott. In 1991 they moved to the state of California. Kerry lives near Florence.

After the death of Charlie, Ida married Louis Rehmer.

The Hampys have lived on the "home place" since they were married, and have owned it since 1964. The farm located west of Florence on KK has been in the Dohrman-Page-Hampy family since 1879.

Submitted by Geneva Hampy

CHRISTIAN AND KATHERINA DUVEL

Christian Duvel was born in Hanover, Germany, June 19, 1842. He came to this country when he was twenty-nine years of age.

Katherina Hansen Duvel was born July 4, 1866, in Hoegel Amt. Bredstedt in Schleswig Holstein, Germany. At the age of fourteen she came to America with her parents, Martin and Katherina Hansen, two sisters, Pauline and Matilda Hansen, and a brother, Andrew Hansen. They settled on a farm in Morgan County near Florence, Missouri.

Christian and Katherina were the parents of eight children: Minnie, Freda, Nettie, Sophia, Henry, Lena, Ernest and Alma. All lived to grow up and establish families of their own.

Christian was engaged in a trade as wagon maker. He learned this trade in Germany. He also did some carpenter work. His shop was in Florence.

Christian and Katherina Duvel lived on their farm near Florence for forty-eight years. They moved to Stover, Missouri, in October of 1919.

Christian Duvel died April 19, 1925. Katherina Duvel died November 8, 1929. Both were buried in the Evangelical Cemetery in Florence, Missouri.

Submitted by
Betty Mertgen Woodall

AUGUST ELDENBURG

From Germany, via New York, the August Eldenburg family arrived in Morgan County, near Florence, in 1882. He married Caroline Bretall. They had five children: Harmon, August, Jr., Robert, Augusta and Carl. They settled on the Charles Otten farm, just south of Florence.

Of the five children, only Harmon and Robert established homes in Morgan County. Harmon married Sophia Hildebrandt, and Robert married her niece, Theresa White, in 1912.

For several years, Harmon and Sophia lived on the Bennington farm, presently owned by Agnes Wray. Their son Bennett, was born there in 1895. In 1900, Harmon and Robert Eldenburg bought the Billie Baughman farm, on Richland Creek. Harmon's son, Otto, was born at the farm, after his parents moved there shortly after the purchase.

Bennett died in 1905. Otto bought his uncle's half of the land from his Aunt Theresa and her daughters. In 1920, Otto married Cora Schroder. Their children are Lucille (Mrs. Leo) Brodersen,

Myrtle (Mrs. Floyd) Bristow and Dr. Donald Eldenburg.

Robert and Theresa Eldenburg reared their children on the farm where his parents first settled, which still is owned by their son, Harold, who was born in 1913. Two daughters, Esther (Mrs. John) Carlock and Elise (Mrs. H.M. Ferguson), became nurses and moved to Oregon. Esther has a daughter, Mary, and a grandson, Matthew. Elise died at age 33.

Harold Eldenburg married Anna Rages in 1939 and they have two children. Robert, born in 1940, lives in Oklahoma. Theresa (Mrs. Arlyn) Hartsock, born in 1957, lives near Stover. Robert has a daughter, Robin, born in 1964, and a son, Michael, born in 1967. Theresa's daughters, Jennifer and Christy, were born in 1975 and 1976, respectively.

Harold and Anna Rages Eldenburg, a retired schoolteacher, live near Highway 135, not far from Florence, Missouri.

Submitted by
Anna J. Eldenburg

OTTO ELDENBURG

Otto was born in 1900 on the family farm near Florence and died in 1986. In 1902 he married Cora Schroder (1897-1984). Their children are Lucille (Mrs. Leo) Brodersen, Florence, Myrtle (Mrs. Floyd) Bristow, Florence, and Dr. Donald Eldenburg, Sedalia.



Otto and Cora Eldenburg, 1920

Lucille has two children. Judy (Mrs. Robert) Page, Florence has two children, Brent and Lindy. Gary Brodersen, Florence, is married to Barbara Chap-

man and they have two sons, Scott and Kevin.

Myrtle has two sons. A daughter, Janet Clingan died in 1959 at the age of three. SFC James Clingan, Louisiana, is married to Sony Kim Myong and they have two sons, James and Jerromy. A son Christopher Clingan died in 1982 at the age of three months. Mark Clingan, Florence, is married to Donna Sisson and they have a daughter, Megan.

Donald is married to Charlotte Ausman and they have three sons. Dr. Steven Eldenburg, Sedalia, is married to Rebecca Hagler and they have three children, Matthew, Stephanie, and Victoria. Dr. Larry Eldenburg, Ohio, is married to Rebecca Johnson and they have one son, Andrew. Dr. Curtis Eldenburg, Kentucky, is married to Teri Baugher.

Submitted by
Judy Page

FREDRICK (FRITZ) FETHKE

Fredrick (Fritz) Fethke was born June 11, 1845, in Germany. He came to this country in 1872. He settled in Wisconsin. In 1873 he married Rosalin Jessie. Rosalin was born in Deutche Krone Posen, Germany on April 14, 1844. In 1868 she came to America and lived in Wisconsin.

In 1878 the family moved to Florence, Missouri, where they made their home on a farm. They were blessed with two boys and five girls: Otto died in infancy and was buried in Wisconsin. Mary Teresa was born February 27, year unknown. Gusta Agadia was born March 13, 1875. Emma Cathryn



Fredrick Fethke Family

was born April 30, 1878, Martha was born September 22, 1881, Betty Elizabeth was born April 6, 1883 and William (Willie) Fredrick was born February 3, 1886.

Willie Fethke and his wife, Lulu Klein Fethke, lived on the family farm. They had three children: Lowell Leonard born July 31, 1908 and twins, Mary Lubertha and Rosalin Louise born August 28, 1916.

Rosalin and Lubertha were premature babies weighing two and two and one-half pounds at birth. A Dr. Osborne from Florence came to the Fethke home to deliver them. It was the 28th of August but the weather was very cold. (Dr. Osborne wore an overcoat that night.) The doctor didn't think such tiny little girls could live but their aunt, Rosella Richardson Klein, put pillows in the bottom of an old wash tub. She wrapped the babies warmly, lay them on top of the pillows, and added more covers on top. The tub was then placed near an old woodstove that was quite hot. In this improvised 1916 incubator both girls lived. The twins took pneumonia four months later and Rosalyn, the weaker of the two died. She is buried in Ebenezer Cemetery.

Lowell Fethke married Nettie Kindrick. They lived on the family farm. They had three boys: Lowell Cleo born April 27, 1933, Wayne born April 10, 1937 and Gilbert Paul born November 12, 1940. Lowell died February 4, 1977, and is buried in the Methodist Cemetery in Florence. His son, Wayne, now lives on the farm.

The Fethke's seem to continue with the farming tradition. Cleo Fethke and his wife, Hazel Ellison Fethke, live on a farm near Florence. They have three children: Kathy (October 8, 1961) married Jerry Holsten and they have two boys: Schulyer (July 16, 1986) and Jared Alexander (April 6, 1991); Lowell Gregory (May 19, 1972); and Kristen (July 22, 1973).

Gilbert and his wife, Janice Raines Fethke live in Sedalia. They have three daughters: Angela Kay (March 10, 1971), Mary Jeanette (April 21, 1974), and Sandra Dee (March 12, 1976).

Lubertha and her late husband, Wilbert Hofstetter, farmed. Their son David (January 10, 1952) and his wife, Cheryl Ripley Hofstetter, also farm near Florence. David and Cheryl have three sons: Jeremy (May 14, 1976), Seth (July 8, 1979), and Scott (November 4, 1985).

The Hofstetter's oldest son, Daryl (October 21, 1942) works for Ray Baughman in a farm related position. Daryl married Patty Reives. They have two children: Daryn (September 7, 1974) and Deana (July 5, 1978).

Fredrick (Fritz) Fethke died January 29, 1923. Rosalin Jesse Fethke died September 24, 1916. They are buried in the Smithton Cemetery, Smithton, Missouri. Fredrick Fethke's mother, Rosella Meritzkey Fethke, is buried in the Florence Cemetery between the Methodist and St. John's Cemetery. There is no longer a marker at the gravesite.

JOHN AND JILL FULLENKAMP

John and Jull Fullenkamp have two children. Megan is 2½ years old and Ethan is 6½ months old. We are real new to the area and are enjoying our new home. We moved to Sedalia in May of 1991 from Burnlington, Iowa. We moved to our present home April 13th, 1992. It is located just two miles north of Florence and ¾ mile east off highway 135.

John works for Auto Owners Insurance Co. which has its home office in Lansing, Michigan. John is a resident claims adjuster and covers a large area from Mexico down to the Lakes.

I am a homemaker and enjoy caring for our two children. I also enjoy gardening, making crafts and singing.

Being so new to the area we aren't able to give any input towards the history of Florence but we are anxious to get familiar with the friendly people in the area.

GRIFFING

Clarence Newton "Newt" Griffing was born in Florence, Missouri on September 2, 1916. He was the son of William Newton and Clara Shick Griffing. He attended school in Florence until the family moved to Sedalia. He married Lucille LeBegue (born August 13, 1923, Sedalia, Missouri), on July 21, 1941. She is the daughter of William and Lizzie Dietzman LeBegue.

Newt and Lucille moved three miles west of Florence in 1947. They have seven children; Sue Carver, Smithton; Linda Warren, Sedalia; Clarence N. Griffing, Jr., Smithton; William P. Griffing, Florence; Patrical Hayes, Grain Valley; Connie Winnie, Grain Valley; and Marlene Schroeder,

Florence. Newt died January 16, 1981.

Submitted by
Lucille Griffing



W.N. Griffing children

HAMPY

The name Hampy has been changed several times. On a naturalization document dated April 30, 1848, the name is spelled F. Wilhelm Haumpe. A letter from Nachen, Germany, dated May 10, 1860, was signed by Mrs. Heinrich Hampe and sent to Christine and Mrs. Ludwig Wessler in Cottersville, Missouri. Mrs. Hampe was Friedrich Wilhelm's brother's wife. Friedrich Wilhelm was the only one of his brothers and sisters to come to America.

Friedrich Wilhelm was born November 16, 1816. He and his wife, Christine Clare Engel Wessler, settled on a farm in the Black Jack community of Richland township in northwest Morgan County. They had eight children including a set of twins. The two oldest died in infancy. Four other children were Johann Friedrich, Harmen Wilhelm, Luys (Louis) Edward, and Heinrich Phillip.

While Friedrich and Christine were living on their farm some "Bushwackers" (Confederate guerilla fighters in the Civil War) came to their home and demanded that Mr. Hampy saddle one of his

best horses. They ordered him to mount the horse, which he did. He was sure he would be taken away and murdered like his neighbor, Mr. Mitchell. Hampy pretended that the horse started to buck and he fell off on purpose. Then one of the Bushwackers got off his horse and hit Hampy in the back of the head with his revolver and left him for dead. During this time Mrs. Hampy hid in the under brush with the four boys. After several hours Hampy came to and was able to crawl to the house, which was quite near. The family was still very uneasy for fear the bushwackers would return. The mother took the youngest son, Phillip, and hid near the spring which was surrounded by trees and underbrush. The father and three other boys slept in the hay for a few nights.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hampy died on New Years Day, 1892. They succumbed to pneumonia, in those days referred to as "La grippe". It was very similar to the infulenza which caused so many deaths in 1918-1920. Harmon, a son, died six days later of the same illness.

After the death of the parents, the farm was sold at auction. John Rages was the highest bidder and the buyer, but Phillip Hampy ran up the bids in order to make more money for the heirs. His brother, John, gave him a pair of boots for this.

Louis Hampy married Ollie Mitchell and had three sons; Roy, Earnest, and Logan. Later he married Caroline Delany Randoll and they were parents to Farest Raymond. Farest married Ellen Ellison of Smithton, Missouri and died in 1987. Their children were CL, Cleo (Bill), and Carolyn. CL married Jewel Williams and they now live at Cole Camp. Their children are Christy, Cathy, Clay, and Candy. Cleo married Geneva Page and died in 1986. They lived on a farm west of Florence. Their children are Brent, Michael, Jeanette, and Kerry. Carolyn married Vincent Sterner and they live in Kansas City. Their children are Vincent, Ellen Ann, Mary, Susan, and Barbara.

CLARA GOODMAN HATFIELD

Clara Goodman Hatfield was born in Morgan County in 1915. Her only living brother is Oscar Goodman. Clara is retired.

Clara's father was James Goodman, and her mother was Daisy Baughman. The Goodmans and Baughmans have lived in Morgan County for over 150 years. Clara married Melvin P. Hatfield now deceased.

HERMANN HOINS/HOEHNS

During the middle 1800's, eight children belonging to brothers Johann Hinrich Hoins and Johann Christoph Hoehns emigrated to the United States.

These children were born in the Taaken and Hepstedt areas of Hannover, Prussia, and they settled first in this central Missouri region of Pettis, Morgan and Benton Counties.

The children were Margarethe Hoehns, Hermann Hoehns and Johann Hinrich Hoehns, belonging to Johann Hinrich and Elisabeth Behnke/Hoins; Margaretha, Hermann and Gesche Hoehns, belonging to Johann Christoph and Gesche Wahlers/Hoehns; and Clause Heinrich Hoehns who settled in the Lincoln, Missouri vicinity. Hermann Hoehns/Hoins in 1878 moved to Davenport, Nebraska and settled there.

The Hermann Hoehns who settled, lived and raised his family of eleven children in this Pettis and Morgan County locale, was born August 22, 1838 in Hepstedt, Hanover, Germany, the only son of Johann Christoph and Gesche Wahlers/Hoehns.

Hermann, as did his two sisters, emigrated to the United States in the middle 1850's. By June 19, 1861, he had enlisted as a Private in Company F of the Missouri Home Guards. Though Herman's brother-in-law Cord Ringen was killed in the assault on the Heisterburg barn during the Battle of Cole Camp in Benton Company, Missouri, he came through unscathed but minus a gun which he valued at \$15. Cord Ringen on August 28, 1857 married Herman's sister, Margaretha Hoehns. Cord and Margaretha's second child, Anna Gesina Ringen, was born barely two months prior to the Cole Camp battle. (Hermann's youngest sister Gesch married Heinrich Rugen.) Margaretha later married Johan Gieschen from Benton County and had another family of children.

It appears that Hermann Hoehns enlisted yet another time during the Civil War, this time on September 12, 1864. This time he was a Private in Company K in the 41st Regiment of the Missouri Volunteer Infantry. He was honorably discharged in St. Louis, Missouri on July 11, 1865.

On October 4, 1866, Hermann Hoehns married Margaretha Ratje, daughter of Johan Hinrich Ratje and Catherine Margaretha Mangels, thereby becoming my great-grandparents. They had eleven children: John C., Wilhelm A., Charles W., Catia G., Henry Edward, Anna M., Matilda S., Martha L., Ida May, Hulda and Hilda. Henry Edward Hoehns married Julia Matilda Rages and became

my grandparents. Thier children were Gladys Gertrude, Leo Hermann, Raymond Frances, and Elsie Irene, my revered and much loved Mother.

On October 30, 1890, Hermann applied for an Invalid pension. By this time, his health was delicate. He had a respiratory ailment which affected his head, ears and throat. His lungs were diseased and he had digestive problems . . . and he was only 52 years old! Today, we could possibly call it asthma, bronchitis or allergic rhinitis. In 1890, I doubt that there was any relief to be had. Hermann must have drawn a pension for a while for when he died on September 30, 1902 in Pettis County, his widow Margaetha continued to draw a pension for his service. Margaretha drew \$30.00 per month until her death on September 19, 1926.

Hermann and Margaretha are buried in the Lake Creek Methodist Cemetery, as are Henry Edward and Julia Matilda Hoehns and my Mother Elsie. The cemetery is located a short distance southeast of Lake Creek on the edge of a rolling hill. A gate opens into the silent world of the redeemed who are no longer troubled with physical pains and emotional anguish. They slumber peacefully as we who are left behind attempt to deal with daily personal crises, county problems and world anxieties.

Submitted by Dorothy Bass

HOUCHEN

James Vardman Houchen was born on 7-6-1844 at Louisville, Kentucky. When he was 4 years old, he came to Morgan County, state of Missouri with his parents. James was a Civil War Veteran. In later years, his widow received thirty dollars a month because of this service. He married Margaret Elizabeth Jones on 2-14-1867. She was born near Self Chapel on 7-17-1841. They lived southeast of Florence and had eight children: Sarah, David, Charles, James, Lulu lived eight months, Berk, Edward, and Frank. James and Margaret were members of Self Chapel Church and in later years, they moved to Stover and joined the Methodist Church in 1911. James died on 3-19-1914 and Margaret died on 1-20-1929. They are buried at the Stover Cemetery. They were very much loved and respected. This was proven by the annual picnic on Margaret's birthday at her home in Stover. A large crowd of friends and neighbors attended along with her family members. They continued to meet at the park for a number of years after her death.

Sarah (Sallie) Jane Houchen Married Lewis Siegel. They had three sons: Ervin, Edgar, and Clarence.



Back Row: Marvin, Elmer, Lessie (Sluder), Mary, Arthur, Zelma (Bremer). Front Row: Hannah (Hall), Martha Houchen.

John David (Dave) Houchen (1869-1943) married Martha (Mot) Ellen Gooman (1870-1951). They had eight children: Elmer, Lessie, Oscar, Hannah, Mary, Marvin, Arthur, and Zelma. They lived southwest of Florence. Dave was an avid hunter and kept a number of fox hounds. David and Martha are buried at the United Church of Christ Cemetery at Florence, Missouri. Elmer Charles Houchens (1892-1991) was a veteran of WWI. He married Marie D. Schupp (1894-1956). After Marie died, Elmer married Edith Wear Mertgen (10-1-1915). Elmer had three stepchildren: Sue, Dwight, and Willian Mertgen. Lessie May Houchens (2-7-1894) married Charley Sluder (1886-1946). They had 2 daughters. Marie married Lawrence Zimmerschied and Angeline married Leon Burkhalte. Oscar Robert Houchen (1896-deceased) was a WW I weteran and married a woman named Grace. She had one son named Kenneth that Oscar adopted. They had two other sons: Keith Robert died as a child with diptheria and Oscar Gene. Hannah Elizabeth Houchen (4-22-1899) married Ellis Ray (Slim) Hall. He died in 1948. Mary Pearl Houchen (1902-1989), Marvin Franklin Houchen (1905-1989) married a woman named Cora. They had three chidren: Kenneth, Norma Ann, and Linda. Cora and Marvin divorced and Marvin married Grace. Arthur Vardman Houchen (1909-1972) married Pauline K. Rodenbach (1908-1981). They had four children: Leonard was stillborn, Eva, Wayne, and Margaret. Zelma Lillian Houchen (1911-1988) married Carl W. Bremer (1904-1976). They had four sons: Lloyd

Robert, Darrell, and Keith.

Charles Lee Houchen (1872-1948) married Hilia "Ann" Goodman (1873-1958). They had five children: Vardman, Jesse died of measles at the age of three, Arbrey, Charles, and Emma Lee.

James William Houchen (1875-1964) married Lela "Lee" Pearl Goodman (1875-1940). They had two children; Mildred Hazel and Newton Levon.

Berkley Houchen married Maude Hunt. They had five children: John, Virgil, Omar, Orville, and May.

Edward C. Houchen (1882-1951) married Ardella Rauchelbauch. After she died, Edward married Freida Getty. They adopted one son named Vard.

Frank L. Houchen (1885-1970) married Emma C. Lemke (1887-1960). They had five children; Earl, Mabel, Ardella, Claudie (1912-1916) died of measles, and Coletha (1917-1918).

Edith, Margaret, Lloyd, and Keith still live in the Florence area.

Submitted by
Lloyde & Ellen Bremer

HUDSON

Leslie Owen Hudson was born at Bunceton, Missouri, in Cooper County, on July 2, 1885. He was the son of John Hudson and Sophie Catherine Dedrick Hudson. He died June 16, 1969. In November of 1916 he married Anna Arminta Miller, daughter of Felix Henry Miller and Labitha Cramer Miller. She was born February 16, 1899, and died September 20, 1944.

Leslie Owen and Anna Arinta had 10 children: Vencil Owen, Doyle Leo, Teddy Ray, Ethel June, Chester Elwood, Leslie Darrell, Velda Geneva, Janice Mae, Wayne Lee and Wanda Lou. Wayne Lee and Wanda Lou were twins.

The Hudsons were farmers. They lived in this area all of their lives.

TOM AND MINNIE NOLTING JONES

In 1846 Edward Jones immigrated from Wales to the United States. In the fall of 1846 he moved his family of one son and two daughters from Ohio to Missouri. After crossing the Mississippi River on a ferry they camped overnight near a friendly Indian village. The chief's wife liked the two blonde girls and gave them some Indian candy (honey and dried grasshoppers). The Jones children turned up

their noses and would not eat the candy. Their mother wrapped it up and hid it in the old covered wagon.

At Christmas time the children had been told over and over that Santa would never find them this Christmas. But on Christmas morning each had a little toy whittled out of wood. Their father had made them with his pocket knife. There was also some delicious sweet candy.

As Christmas day passed the little girls asked, "Mother, where did you get this good candy? We thought you didn't have any candy." The girls were told that this was the Indian candy they refused to eat back in Illinois!

So goes the trip of the Joneses as they carved for themselves a place in the sun, a clearing in the wilderness, and a home where children might grow up to be good citizens. So now in 1992 maybe you and I too might enjoy a snack of wild honey and dried grasshoppers.

Edward Jones's son, Tom Jones, also ate some of the grasshopper candy. Tom Jones married Minnie Nolting. He passed this story on to his own children: Wray, Otis, Walter, Agnes (Mrs. Leo Wray), and Marlin. Both Edward and Tom were farmers.

Submitted by
Agnes Wray

AUGUST D.W. KANENBLEY

August Dietrick Wilhelm Kanenbley, son of Frederick and Elizabeth Kanenbley, was born in Morgan County on July 17, 1861. He married Catherine Rodenbach on March 29, 1894. They were the parents of one child, Raymond Christian. August was a farmer in the Richland Creek area near Syracuse, Missouri. Both were members of Evangelical and Reformed Church in Florence. August died March 25, 1920. Catherine died September 5, 1959.

Raymond Christian Kanenbley was born on September 2, 1895. He graduated from Burford School and attended Business College in Sedalia, Missouri. He married Sarah Edith Siegel on September 9, 1916. They were the parents of three children: Raymond Jr., August Siegel, and Kathryn Amfield. Raymond spent his entire life on the family farm in the Richland Creek area near Syracuse, Missouri. They were both killed in an automobile accident on August 29, 1970. Both were buried in the Syracuse cemetery.

Raymond Kanenbley, Jr. was born March 29, 1917. He graduated from Syracuse High School. He spent 3½ years in the Navy during World War II. He married Ruth of Cowgill, Missouri and she died in 1952. His second marriage was to Norma Tanner of Bethany, Missouri. Raymond was employed by General Motors in Kansas City, Missouri for 30 years. He died January 14, 1977 and was buried in Floral Hills cemetery in Kansas City, Missouri. Raymond had no children.



August, Wayne, and Shirley Kanenbley
in the Kanenbley Store, 1957

August Siegel Kanenbley was born July 19, 1921. He graduated from Syracuse High School. He served in the Navy during World War II. He married Minnie Rasa of Florence, Missouri on June 26, 1943. They were the parents of two children: August Wayne and Shirley Ann. Since 1952, August has owned and operated Kanenbley's Store in Florence, Missouri. August also owns and operates a farm 4 miles east of Florence on Richland Creek.

Kathryn Amfield Kanenbley was born January 11, 1926. She graduated from Syracuse High School and attended Central Missouri State College in Warrensburg, Missouri. Kathryn taught school three years at Mt. Olive. Kathryn married Lionel Henderson of Otterville, Missouri on September 27, 1948. They were the parents of one child: Sarah Loretta. Kathryn now resides in Otterville.

August Wayne Kanenbley was born June 13, 1944. He graduated from Tipton High School and received his Agriculture Engineering degree from the University of Missouri at Columbia, Missouri. He spent three years in the U.S. Air Force. August Wayne married Rita Skaggs of St. Louis, Missouri on September 2, 1967. They are the parents of

three children: Cynthia Sue, born March 11, 1970, Lynn Michelle, born March 2, 1973, and Mark Raymond, born February 6, 1974. Wayne was employed for four years as a Mill Superintendent by Cargill Feed Division. In 1976, he returned to Syracuse, Missouri and purchased the Kanenbley farm in the Richland Creek area which was previously owned by his Great-grandfather, Grandfather, and Father.

Shirley Ann Kanenbley was born December 1, 1946. She graduated from Tipton High School and received her B.S. degrees in Business Administration and Business Education and her M.S. degree in Business Education from Central Missouri State University at Warrensburg, Missouri. Shirley taught eight years at Stover High School in Stover, Missouri. She married Gary Knipp of Tipton, Missouri on August 22, 1970. They are the parents of three children: Christian Byron, born March 16, 1976, Sarah Jane, born August 4, 1977, and Jared Frederick, born June 12, 1979.

Sarah Loretta Henderson was born on November 10, 1949. She graduated from Washington High School in Kansas City, Kansas. She married Norm Cook of Kansas City, Kansas on October 27, 1972. They are the parents of two children: Heather Dawn, born August 29, 1975, and Kevin Lewis, born on October 27, 1978.

Submitted by
August S. Kanenbley

FREDERICH, HENRY, AND JOSEPH KANENBLEY

Frederich Kanenbley was born February 10, 1810, and died September 28, 1863. Elizabeth Stumpenhous was born on May 5, 1823, and died August 25, 1882. They were both born in Hanover, Germany. Frederich settled on a farm just east of Florence, Missouri.

Frederich and Elizabeth were married on March 30, 1849. They had six children: Henry, Herman, Dorisa, Eliza, August and Dedrich. Henry was born July 27, 1850. He was 13 years old when his father was killed by bushwackers. Elizabeth continued to operate the farm with the help of her family.

Henry married Augusta Meier, daughter of Carl and Adelaide Meier, on January 6, 1889. Henry and Augusta lived and farmed the original Frederich Kanenbley farm. Henry died on January 18, 1917, and Augusta died on April 5, 1930. Henry and Augusta are both buried north of the Methodist Church in the Union Cemetery at Florence,

Missouri. Henry and Augusta Kanenbley had four children: Herman M., Carl Frederick (Charley), Sophia Elizabeth and Harry Joseph.

Herman and Charley never married. Herman was born January 13, 1890, and died October 17, 1955. Charley was born December 15, 1891, and died January 28, 1964. Herman and Charley are both buried at the cemetery in Florence.

Sophia was born June 30, 1895. Sophia married Walker Howard Sanders on December 16, 1917. Sophia and Walker had six children: Charles Harold, Otto Ray, Ruby Frances, Mara Lou, Ellen Agusta Virginia and an infant son who did not live. Sophia died November 10, 1978. Walker died April 30, 1969. They are both buried at Highland Memorial Gardens in Sedalia, Missouri.

Harry Joseph Kanenbley was born June 30, 1889, on the Kanenbley farm east of Florence. Joseph helped his brothers Herman and Charley, with the farming. Herman, Charley and Joseph were known to many as the Kanenbley Brothers. The brothers raised Hereford cattle, spotted Poland China hogs, brown and white Leghorn chickens and sheep. The Kanenbley brothers had one of the first horse powered hay balers in the area. They also terraced their own land with only the use of a carpenters level and a plow.

Joseph married Georgia Alberdene Bramble on December 28, 1931. Georgia Alberdene was born August 6, 1910, to Thomas and Anna Jane Bramble. Joseph and Alberdene lived three miles east of Florence, and south of the Kanenbley homestead. The farm was known as "The Kein Place". Joseph and Alberdene had three children: Joann, Charles Herman and Mary Frances. Joseph died December 8, 1965.

Joann was born October 30, 1932 in Florence. She married Ralph Herman Twenter on August 29, 1953 in Sedalia. They live in Pilot Grove, Missouri, where they own a lumber yard. Joann and Ralph have two children: Daniel Joseph born March 1, 1954, and Linda Ann born July 19, 1955. They have one grandson: Cody Daniel born January 13, 1987.

Charles Herman was born January 19, 1934, in Sedalia. He married Patricia Ann Cuttaia on September 5, 1964, in Costa Mesa, California. They have three children: Francine Rene' born March 2, 1966, Stephen Joseph born December 28, 1967, and Christopher Cole born May 7, 1970. Charles Herman is a retired fire captain from the city of Anaheim, California.

Mary Frances was born November 3, 1936, at Florence, Missouri. She married Paul Elmer Duvel on September 5, 1954, in Florence. Mary and Paul have three children: June Loretta (Mrs. Ben Ramirez) was born June 13, 1955. Charles Lou born July 23, 1956, and William Paul born May 5, 1959. Bill married Ellen Rene' Hawthorne. The Duvels also have three grandchildren: Ryan and Kristin Ramirez, and Haley Duvel. Paul retired from Leucadia County Water District in Leucadia, California. Paul and Mary are traveling the United States from coast to coast in their RV.

Following the deaths of Herman and Charley, Joseph bought the family farm. He later sold it. Joseph is buried at Highland Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Sedalia, Missouri. After Joseph's death on December 8, 1965, Alberdene married Eugene Brown on June 28, 1975, at Oceanside, California.

Submitted by
Mrs. Ralph Twenter

JOHN WILLIAM KLEIN

John William Klein was born May 16, 1842 in Newvid, which is a city near Coblenz, Germany. He came to America from Germany at the age of nine. His mother, sisters, and brothers also immigrated at that time. They settled on a farm in Morgan County east of Florence, Missouri, at the foot of the hill just west of the present house. (Today this farm is the Joan Siegel and the late Donald Siegel farm.) John William Klein lived on this farm until 1916. He then went to live with his sons and daughters.

John Klein married Maria Meirs on January 30, 1864. She was born November 18, 1844, in Morgan County. Her parents came from Hanover in northern Germany.

This family was blessed with 13 children: Emma Magdalena (Mrs. Dick Wiecken) was born January 13, 1865, Anna Martha (Mrs. Jacob Peter Brodersen) was born October 26, 1866, Fred William (married Mattie Wolbeck who died and then married Alpha Thixton) was born February 25, 1868, Katrina (Mrs. Charley P. Lewis) was born December 12, 1869, Carl or Chris (married Maggie Ann Rugen) was born September 26, 1971, August Fredrick (married Betty Fethke) was born October 2, 1873, John Wilhelm (married Rosella Richardson) was born September 12, 1875, John Antone (married Marie Christine Zimmer) was born

December 28, 1877, Anna Ida (Mrs. James Edward Young) was born March 29, 1880, Mary or Marie (Mrs. Oscar Mothersbaugh) was born August 30, 1882, Dora Cena (Mrs. David Wahlers) was born September 5, 1884, Louise or Lulu (Mrs. Fritz Fethke. When he died she married Emil Paul Rehmer) was born October 27, 1887, and Clara Viola (Mrs. J. Bertus Young) was born December 30, 1888.

Marie Meirs Klein died October 15, 1899. John William Kein died April 11, 1899. They are buried in Ebenezer Cemetery near Florence.

Many of the descendents live in the Florence area.



John Wiliam Klein Family

KNERIM

Russel Knerim and Sheila Ellison were married August 27, 1888, at Christ Lutheran Church in Stover, Missouri. They moved to the Nora Hartman house south of Florence the next day. The Hartman farm is now owned by Kenneth Schroder. They lived there one year and then bought the Henderson house in Florence owned by Jerry and Kathy Holsten.

Russel's parents are Eckhardt and Ella Ann Eckhoff Knierim. He was raised in Stover, Missouri. Shiela was originally from Nashville, Tennessee. In 1980 she moved to Stover with her parents, Jack and Joyce Collins Ellison. Russell and Shiela have one son, Jacob Daniel, who was born February 26, 1991.

CHRISTIAN KURTZ

Johanas William Kurtz was born in Germany. He died in 1886 and is buried in Union Cemetery, Florence, Missouri.

In 1846 Johanas Kurtz set sail from Germany to America in a sail boat accompanied by his family. The trip took nearly six months. At times they felt that they must be heading back to Germany rather than toward America. Food and water were rationed on the trip. After arriving at New Orleans, Louisiana, they boarded a smaller ship and traveled up the Mississippi and the Missouri rivers to Boonville where they found a land office. There they acquired eighty acres of land sight unseen. This land

was located two miles east of Florence, Missouri. On this land was a one room log house with an attic in which the children slept. At a later date a lean-to kitchen was added making more room for the family. This log house was located east of the Glenn Mertgen house.

A team of oxen and a two-wheeled ox cart were bought in Boonville for the trip to Florence. On the way a wheel was broken. They were near a farmer's home where they cut down a tree and made a new wheel for the cart. That night the family slept in the farmer's barn and continued their trip the next day. The trip took them two days. This farmer became Johanan William's first friend in America.

Johanas became a farmer and journeyed to Boonville, Missouri, to pay his annual taxes as there was no county seat in Morgan County at this time. In later years forty more acres were added to the eighty acres making a total of one hundred and twenty acres.

Records show that one of the children of Johanas was a son, Christian, who was born in Germany in the year 1838. He came to America with his father at the age of eight years. As a young man he was in the military service through the Civil War years. To receive his discharge from the army he walked with a group of young men to Georgetown, Missouri in Pettis County. The next day he returned to his home in Florence.

Christian Kurtz was born in 1838, in Germany and died in 1921. He is buried at Union Cemetery at Florence, Missouri. He married Anna Gertrude Betsover, who was born in Germany in 1848 and died in 1876. She is also buried at Union Cemetery. Christian and Anna Gertrude had five



Front Row: Amos Bremer, Lena (Kurtz) Bremer, Hershel Bremer, Elsie Bremer Casdorff, August Bremer, Lula Bremer Faulwell. Back Row: Minnie Bremer Bottcher, Eda Bremer Sempkin, Harry Bremer, Clarence Bremer, Augusta Bremer Oehrke.

children: Fritz, Sophia, Lena, Katie and Louise.

Fritz was born February 28, 1866, and died June 13, 1950. He married Justina Bultemier who was born March 25, 1866, and died April 16, 1948. Both are buried at the Smithton Cemetery, Smithton, Missouri. They had four children: Emma, Edward, Lena and Alma.

Sophia (1867-1945) married Henly Oehrke (1860-1933). They had seven children: August, Anna, Edward, William, Ernest, Ben and Otto. Sophia and Henry are buried in the United Church of Christ Cemetery, Florence.

Lena (1869-1948) married August Bremer (1866-1939) in September 1889. Lena and August had nine children: Harry, Minnie, Clarence, Eda, Augusta, Lula, Amos, Elsie, and Hersel. Lena and August are buried in the United Church of Christ Cemetery, Florence.

Katie (1873-1963) married Edgar Layne. They had one child, Helen (1899-1906). She is buried at the United Church of Christ Cemetery, Florence. Katie and Edgar were divorced and Katie married George Altemuller. They had no children. They are buried in the Catholic section of Crown Hill Cemetery, Sedalia, Missouri.

Louise (1872-1902) married Charles Peter Schuster (1858-1908). They had two daughters:

Dorothy and Elizabeth. Louise and Peter are buried at Crown Hill Cemetery, Sedalia, Missouri.

Anna Gertrude Betsover Kurtz (Mother) died and Christian then married Anna Margaretha Schmidt (1848-1899) on November 17, 1876. Christian and Anna Margaretha had four daughters: Mary, Elizabeth, Phillapena, and Christena.

Mary (1878-1957) married John Bultemier (1876-1953). They had one son, Edward. Mary and John are buried at the United Church of Christ Cemetery, Florence.

Elizabeth (1880-1965) married James Hays (1878-1952). They had seven children: Floyd, Earl, Vanetta, Franklin, Esther, Lorena, and August. Elizabeth and James are buried at the Union Cemetery, Florence.

Phillapena (1884-1966) never married. She is buried at Crown Hill Cemetery, Sedalia, Missouri.

Christian and Anna Margaretha Schmidt Kurtz are buried at the Union Cemetery, Florence, Missouri.

Submitted by
Mrs. Hersel Bremer

JOHN WILLIAM KURTZ

The name of Kurtz or Kurz is of German origin.

Since the word Kurz means "short, brief, abrupt, summary, concise," it was probably first used as a nickname and later adopted as the name of the sons of one so called.

Families bearing this name were early seated in various parts of Germany and the rest of continental Europe including Wurttemberg, Salzburg, and Bavaria. These lines appear to have been, in large part, of the landed and educated classes. The earliest Kurtz-Kurz families came to America in the eighteenth century.

Some of the Kurtz family arrived to America from Germany in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1740. However, it appears that our branch of the Kurtz family started in America with their arrival in New Orleans, Louisiana. Our forefather John Williams Kurtz was born in Germany in 1801. He died January 5, 1888. He and his wife, Mora, are buried in Bethlehem Cemetery near Florence, Morgan County, Missouri. The only known child traced to this marriage was Frederick William Kurtz.

Frederick William Kurtz was born in Germany, October 25, 1826. Records found in the Missouri State Archives show that he received his citizenship on October 4, 1833. He married Emeline Klein on October 20, 1854. He died October 12, 1895. Emiline Klein Hutz was born November 14, 1833 in Germany. She died February 25, 1893. Both are buried in Bethlehem Cemetery near Florence, Missouri. Records show that Frederick William Kurtz purchased 40 acres of land in Morgan County on January 15, 1900. Their children were: Marie Elizabeth (called Lizzie), August Frederick, Mary Catherine, J. Henry, John William, Peter, Christian, Sophia, Frederick William and Paulena.

Peter Kurtz, the sixth child of and fourth son of Frederick William and Emeline Kurtz was born July 12, 1864, in Morgan County. He married Aneller Louellen Maness on January 25, 1894, in Morgan County. Peter Kurtz died October 1, 1952, in Morgan County and Aneller Kurtz died on January 20, 1973. Both are buried in the Bethlehem Cemetery near Florence. Their children were: Pearley Mae Kurtz (July 3, 1895-December 6, 1963) never married. She is buried in Bethlehem Cemetery. William Franklin Kurtz (September 5, 1897) is buried in Bethlehem Cemetery. Alice Lucenda Kurtz (Decmber 3, 1899) is buried in Bethlehem Cemetery. Opal Lillian Kurtz (October 16, 1910) was born in Morgan County. Lloyd Elwood (June 3, 1913) is buried in Bethlehem

Cemetery.

Opal Lillian Kurtz, the fourth child of Peter and Aneller Kurtz was born October 16, 1910. She married Walter William Schroder on April 8, 1933. He died October 25, 1954, and is buried in the Florence Methodist Cemetery in Morgan County. Their children were: Imogene Arlene Schroder (June 3, 1934) married Rev. William Dale Martensen. Marilyn Juanita Schroder (February 4, 1936-February 5, 1936) is buried in the Florence Methodist Cemetery. Duane William Schroder (January 7, 1938) married Judy Smith on June 5, 1970. Leo Edward Schroder (July 12, 1940) married Bobbie Wasson on June 21, 1986. Wanda Mae Schroder (December 10, 1942) married Rev. Norman Dale Potter on December 16, 1960. Mary Priscilla Schroder (April 4, 1945) married William Richey on May 24, 1963. Frances Marie Schroder (September 8, 1947) married David Smith on September 26, 1965. Shirley June Schroder (July 12, 1952) married Terry Potter on April 17, 1974.

Opal Lillian Kurtz presently lives in Tipton, Missouri, Moniteau County, and attends church at Mount Olive Baptist Church, Morgan County, Florence, Missouri.

Submitted by
Opal Kurtz Schroder

OLIVER W. LEWIS

Oliver W. Lewis, son of Austin and Lena Berkenbile Lewis of Syracuse, Missouri, and Helen P. Lewis, daughter of Elbert H. and Jannie A. Jones Phillips of Florence, Missouri, were married September 30, 1950. They were the first couple to be married at Mt. Olive Church. The Lewis family lived about five miles north of Florence. Helen was raised in the community on a neighboring farm where she now lives. Her folks first came to the area in 1931. At the time they resided about seven miles south of Florence. They moved to the area north of Florence in 1935. Oliver grew up across Richland Creek in the Syracuse, Missouri, area.

Oliver was an employee of the Missouri Pacific shops in Sedalia, Missouri. They also lived on farms in the area and raised cattle and hogs. Helen was a housewife and took care of the animals while Oliver was at work. She ran a day care facility in Sedalia, Missouri for three and one-half years. She also worked for Stackhouse Tax Service.

Oliver and Helen had one daughter, Gail E. Lewis, born September 13, 1951. She also grew

up in this area, was schooled in the area, and received her college degree at the University of Missouri in Columbia. At present she is living in Clinton, Missouri. She is employed as manager of the Henry County Water Company. She works for Mid-Missouri Engineers, Inc., of Columbia who contract running the Henry County Water Company. She comes home to the farm almost every weekend.

Helen loved going to Florence on Saturday when she was a small child. Her parents sold cream and eggs to the M.F.A. exchange. That was a treat for children back then.

Helen says, "There's not a more beautiful place on earth to be except here at my farm five miles north of Florence. There are many fond memories of this small town - not a better place in the world! My thanks to all who try so hard to preserve it!"

Submitted by
Helen P. Lewis

OLIN MAHNKEN

Olin Edwin Mahnken of Florence, Missouri was born September 24, 1907 and married Cora Adeline Rehmer on May 1, 1933 at Lake Creek. Cora was born July 10, 1914 and is the daughter of Flossie Bell Sanders (1892-1920), whose parents were Harvey A. and Sally Virginia (Steele) Sanders. Cora's father was Emil Paul Rehmer, (1885-1960).

Olin Mahnken was a carpenter and retired farmer. Their children are Leo Lloyd, Delores Jean, Eugene Emil and Linda Karen. Leo was born August 17, 1934 and married Carole Sue Chilcoat at Florence, Missouri. They have one son, Jeffrey Dean and live east of Florence, where Leo is a mechanic in his own shop.

Delores Jean Mahnken was born in Florence on October 21, 1937 and married Alvin H. Nolting, who is an automotive body repairman in Stover. They have three children; Gary Alan, married to Cathy Chiles March 31, 1990, Jimmy Creton, married March 1992 to Gina Ginarich, and Brenda Jean.

Eugene Emil was born at Florence on March 24, 1945. He is married to Helen Marie Hampy. They have three boys; Michael Kevin, Brian, and Derrick. Michael married Barbara Elliott on August 8, 1987.

Linda Karen was born November 5,

1948 and married Randy Harold Randall in 1966. Their children are Lori Ann, Harold Alvin and Michael Gene. Lori married Nick Mittenburg June 15, 1991. Linda was divorced in 1976 and married Bill Griffing April 18, 1986. They have one child, Tonya Kay, born April 1, 1988. Bill works for Sedalia Cold Storage and Linda is a homemaker in Florence.

Submitted by
Bill and Linda Mahnken Griffing

JASPER AND MINNIE MARQUESS

Jasper Newton Marquess was born in 1849 in Trigg County, Kentucky. His parents were William Kidd Marquess and Lottie Armstrong Marquess. His family moved near Windsor, Missouri shortly afterwards and when Jasper was four years old his father drowned after falling off a horse. Minnie Virginia Smith Marquess was born in 1861 in Trigg, Kentucky to Obadiah William Smith and Anne Sibley Withers Smith. Her family moved to the Windsor area when she was eight years old. Minnie and Jasper were married in Windsor June 7, 1883 and moved to the Florence area in 1889. They lived in a log cabin on the old Ed Hartman place until 1896 when they moved to a rebuilt log cabin ¼ mile east of Florence. The cabin was added onto and it still stands today.

Jasper Marquess was a wheelwright by trade and worked in one of the four blacksmith shops in Florence. He also delivered the mail on horseback. When Jasper was working, which was frequently, Minnie had to deliver the mail. She always rode sidesaddle with her long skirts flowing.



Jasper and Minnie Marquess

I remember my grandmother saying many times she delivered the mail when the snow was belly deep on the horse. I remember when my brother and I were young, we walked to Florence on top of the drifted snow and we were almost eye to eye with the power lines.

Minnie and Jasper had six children: Obadiah William, Lillian, Grover Cleveland, Anne Sibley, Florence Eunice and Ernest Newton. Minnie was quite a worker, besides delivering the mail, she would paper peoples homes, acted as mid-wife and had a wonderful garden. She would have her children take a bucket and walk up and down the road picking up the horse droppings to be put on her garden.. I remember my grandmother keeping the meat in the smokehouse, putting her fresh milk from her one cow, into a metal bucket and then lowering it into the cold water of the cistern to keep it cold for family use. I also remember when apples and peaches were ripe, they were peeled and sliced and then my grandmother went upstairs and crawled out onto the porch roof, through the window and spread out a white sheet. The fruit slices were laid out to dry on the sheet and then covered with a cheesecloth. Every day she went up and moved and turned the slices until they were dried and ready to put away for the winter months. With no electricity, drying and canning were the only way to preserve her summer bounty.

I also remember the old Florence picnic grounds next to grandmother's house. There were permanent booths and tables set up there. During the summer, many picnics and events were held there. The gypsies would come to town and camp there. They would come to my grandmother's house for milk and eggs.

My grandparents walked everywhere, as they had no horse and buggy. When Jasper was 77 years old he was walking home from Florence when he slipped and fell on the ice and broke his hip. They didn't know what to do back then, so that pretty much kept him at home until he died when he was 83 years old.

Minnie had never had a broken bone until she was 73 and broke her right arm. She wouldn't let the doctor give her anything for pain as he set it.

When Minnie was 79 years old, her daughters worried about her living alone and finally moved her and her cow (which she refused to leave) to Kansas City. She died the next day and is buried beside her husband in Florence.

Of their children, Obadiah married Leona and

had 10 children. Two of his boys died in their early teens, when their log home burned down. Obadiah was badly burned trying to save his children. He worked for the railroad shops in Sedalia. Lillian married Joseph Straka of Cole Camp and they had two sons. Grover married Cora Mae Walls and they had six children, two of whom died in infancy. Two sons and two daughters are still living. Grover retired from the Santa Fe railroad and then operated a tavern in the old Florence Bank building. Anne was married to Edgar Walls (Cora's brother) and had four children three of whom died in infancy. When her daughter, Margaret, was two years old, they returned from the theatre to their home in Kansas City, Edgar lit a match to light the gas light and the house exploded. Edgar and Margaret died in the fire and Anne was very badly burned. She lived until she was 44. Florence Eunice married Benjamin Franklin Voyles and had four children. Frank worked at the railroad shops and then moved to Kansas City where he was a cement finisher for over 50 years. Ernest married Pauline Hansen, who is still living. They had six children, two of whom died in infancy. He worked for the Santa Fe railroad and died of cancer when he was 53.

I am Mary Edna Voyles Rose, daughter of Florence Marquess and Frank Voyles and granddaughter of Minnie and Jasper Marquess. My husband, William Ferrill, retired in 1984 and we moved to the town that my mother was born in, and named for. Ferrill Franklin Rose, a great-grandson of Minnie and Jasper Marquess, also lives in Florence with his family.

Submitted by
Mary Edna Voyles Rose

HANS MARTENSEN

To Hans and Margarite Martensen on August 12, 1864, a twin son was born, Henrich Christian Martensen in Hogel amt Bredstedt, Provinz Schlesweig, Danmark. At the age of 16 he was confirmed in the Evangelical church at Breckum, Germany and later with a Baptist church. He died February 24, 1923.

At the age of 18 years, trusting in the Divine Spirit for his care and guidance, he left his parents, sister and two brothers in the mother country and set sail for America. In August of 1882 he reached the home of Peter Hansen near Florence, Missouri. On December 3, 1882 he united in marriage with

Maria Wilhemina Catherine Hansen. She was born October 6, 1861, and died September 3, 1948. They made their home five miles north of Florence, Morgan County, Missouri. Their original log home still stands on the family farm. A small family cemetery is located just east of the house where they are both buried.

To their union was born: Oscar Edward (September 25, 1883), Clarence Edwin (April 23, 1885), Johan Walter Ervin (October 14, 1887), Clara Catherina Margreta (January 19, 1890), Cora Viola Marie (July 20, 1892), Edna Eleanor (February 18, 1895), Hulda Fredarica (February 18, 1900), Jens Hans Peter Theodore (March 7, 1902). Jens Hans died September 3, 1986.

The eighth child born to Henrich and "Mina", Jans Hans Peter Theodore Leo Martensen married Blanche Twyman on February 27, 1921. Blanche was born October 1, 1900. She was the daughter of Harry and Barbara Twyman. She died February 19, 1986. They made their home on the family farm five miles north of Florence, Missouri. Hans and Blanche are both buried at the Syracuse Cemetery, Syracuse, Missouri.

To their union was born: Hanse Theodore (December 21, 1921-May 4, 1977) married Geraldine Spalding April 25, 1942. Marguerite Lee (January 8, 1926) married Cletus Meller in 1951. Henry Gibbs (January 31, 1928) married Charlene Arnold on February 22, 1948. Marilyn Blanche (April 25, 1931-February 14, 1937). William Dale (August 2, 1933) married Imogene Schroder on May 16, 1953. Clara Maxine (February 8, 1936) married William Jolly in 1955. Delbert Ray (April 4, 1938) married Inez Brewer on July 2, 1977.

William Dale Martensen, the fifth child born to Hanse and Blanche was born and reared at the family farm near Florence. His wife, Imogene Schroder Martensen, was born near Florence, Missouri, on June 3, 1934 to Walter and Opal Kurtz Schroder.

William Dale and Imogene have four children: Marcia Loretta (March 18, 1957) married Dr. Abraham Azan on November 10, 1983. They have two children, Naseef Marten and Briana Lyn. Marcella Arlene (April 14, 1958) married Dorn Schuffman on October 16, 1987. Their children are Noah Nicholes and Chuelo Nichol. Ricky Dale (December 18, 1959) married Valerie Homan July 15, 1984. Their children are Samantha Faith and Morgan Gayle. Rex Alan (December 16, 1963) married Cynthia Ronspiez on May 15, 1988. Their

children are Rachel Nichol, Brittany Lynn, and Waylon Michael.

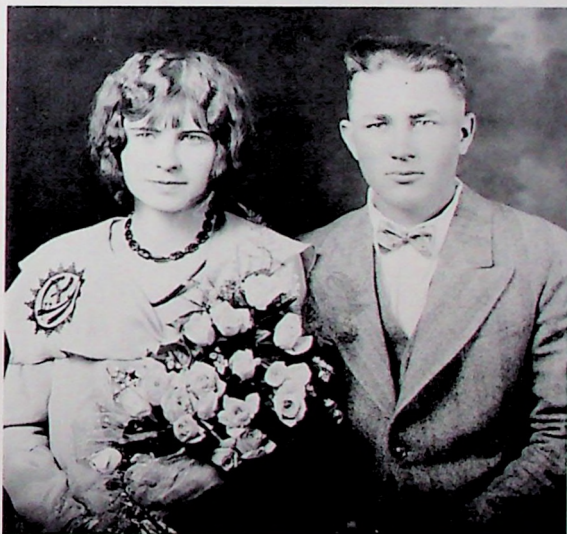
Rev. William Martensen has pastored the Bethlehem Baptist Church, Florence, Missouri, the past 18 years.

The original Martensen brick home in Germany still stands in good condition. Martensen cousins continue to live there today.

Submitted by Rev. W. D. Martensen

MERK FAMILY

Joseph Merk and Elizabeth Gerlt Merk were parents of Henry, born 1872, and Antone, date unknown. Henry married Martha Grupe, born 1882, daughter of Conard and Anna Lutjen Grupe. Conard came over from Germany and met Anna in New York, New York. After their marriage, they moved and settled three miles west of Florence, Missouri, where they raised a large family, August, from a previous marriage in Germany, and Henry, Annie, Mary, Matilda, Katie, and Martha in Florecne, Missouri.



Walter and Marie Merk, 1929

Henry and Martha Merk lived four miles west of Florence where Joseph (1903), Walter H. (1908), and Blanche (1913) were born. They then moved to a farm east of Florence where Mildred (1919), and Pearl (1921) were born. Henry and Martha lived there until their death.

Walter H. married Minnie Marie Williams on April 13, 1929. She was the daughter of Edward R. Williams and Clara Ringen Williams. They liv-

ed in the Florence area near Stony Point School which Marie attended. Walter attended school at Oakland and Harmony. Walter grew up in the Evangelical and Reform Church of Florence, now known as St. John United Church of Christ. Marie belonged to Bethlehem Baptist Church and joined St. John Evangelical and Reform Church after their marriage. Walter and Marie lived on the farm in the Florence Community most of their lives. They moved to Otterville for a couple of years and then moved back to Florence where they farmed and had a herd of dairy cows. In 1947, they moved to Sedalia for a few years then moved back to their farm west of Florence which had been the homeplace of the Grupe family. When they retired they moved to Stover for the rest of their lives.

To this union was born Beatrice Marie born April 2, 1930, and Charles Albert May 4, 1935. Beatrice went to school at Harmony, Otterville, and Oakland and graduated from Stover High School. Charles went to Oakland and also graduated from Stover High.

Beatrice Merk married A. Ray Baughman, son of Albert and Mary Sluder Baughman of Florence, on June 1, 1947. Ray and Beatrice have lived west of Florence for 45 years. They are the proud parents of three children: Carolyn June born April 17, 1948, Duane Ray, September 30, 1950, and Maureen Beatrice, October 25, 1953. The children went to grade school at Florence from Stover High School before going on to college.

Carolyn married David Miesner of Sedalia July 21, 1967. They have three children: Kimberly Michell born January 1, 1968, Matthew David born February 14, 1976, and Abigail Marie born August 27, 1979. They presently live in South Fulton, Tennessee. Kimberly married Kerry Winstead June 11, 1988 and reside in Memphis, Tennessee.

Maureen married Craig L. Rowland of Stover, Missouri, on October 1, 1972. They have two children: Patrick Craig born January 20, 1979, and Cara Elizabeth born May 7, 1980. One son, Brandon Lee, was stillborn September 6, 1975. The Rowlands live in Stover.

Duane married Theresa Herx of Eldon, Missouri, on May 6, 1989. They have one son, Garrin Duane, born December 28, 1990. Duane and his family live near Florence. Duane and Theresa both work in the family business.

Charles Merk married Becky Ann Rumans of the Florence area June 6, 1954. They lived around Florence until after their son, Steven Charles, was

born October 13, 1957. They later moved to Sedalia, Missouri, where Charles was employed by J.A. Lamy Manufacturing Co. Their daughter, Kelly Ann, was born May 28, 1960. After graduating from college, Steven worked in Texas oil fields for several years. He now lives on a farm 10 miles west of Florence and works for Waterloo Industries. Kelly is a registered nurse and works at University Hospital in Columbia, Missouri. She was married to Bill Moore March 3, 1990. They have a son, Christopher Andrew, born January 6, 1992.

There are several branches of the Joseph Merk family still living. This represents the decedents of Walter and Marie Merk, son of Henry and Martha Merk.

Submitted by
Beatrice Baughman

FREDA DUVEL MERTGEN

Freda Sophia Duvel, daughter of Christian and Katherina Duvel, was born May 24, 1874, near Florence, Missouri. On April 22, 1896, she married William Mertgen, son of Christian and Sophia Mertgen. To this union were born six children: Harry, Louis, Hilda, Glen, Emma, and Norman.

Freda and William Mertgen lived on the Mertgen home place for fifty years. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on April 22, 1947. They moved to Florence, Missouri, on November 22, 1947. On this same day Freda died. William then lived with his daughter, Hilda, near Sedalia, Missouri. Freda Mertgen died November 22, 1947, and her husband, William died January 21, 1957, at the age of 94 years. Both are buried in the Evangelical Cemetery in Florence, Missouri.

JOHN CHRISTIAN MERTGEN

Around 1850, John Christian Mertgen, along with his family and his brother John Conrad and his family, came to America from Germany.

The John Christian Mertgen family settled on a farm of approximately 600 acres northeast of Florence on Richland Creek. John Christian and his wife, Anna Katharina Runkel Mertgen had seven children: Sophia, Johanna, John Conrad, Philipena, Maria (Mary) Elizabeth, John William and John Peter. All seven of these children were born in America.

As far as we know John Christian Mertgen engaged in farming as he raised his family in the Florence

communitiy. We know from church records that the family was active in the German Evangelical Church (now the United Church of Christ). Minutes in the church records seem to indicate that Christian Mertgen was very outspoken in the church and church policies.



William and Freda Mertgen, 1896

His son John William Mertgen married in April, 1896, and continued to live on the farm. John Christian Mertgen died May, 1898. Anna Katherina continued to live at the farm with her son, Bill, and family and son, John Peter (Pete), until her death in May, 1914.

Sometime in the early 1920's the Mertgen brothers entered into a partnership with Louis M. Monsees to raise jacks and jennies. Monsees did the buying, selling, arranging shows, etc., and Pete and Bill Mertgen and sons bred and cared for the animals. They showed them at the Missouri State Fair and other shows. The jacks and jennies were bred and raised on the Mertgen farm near Florence. My father, Louis, talked of traveling with jacks and jennies on the train to New York where they were loaded onto a ship and sent to South America. He

was asked to travel with them to South America but decided to return to Florence.

In the mid 1930's a jack colt, Limestone Valley Gold Dust, was born on the Mertgen farm. This jack was never defeated in the show ring and was sold to J.C. Penny of Hamilton, Missouri, for \$5,000. At that time that was the highest priced jack to be sold. This J.C. Penny was the founder of the Penney Store.

As Bill Mertgen's sons, Harry, Louis and Glenn, married and established homes of their own and son, Norman, entered the military service, Louis Monsees and the Mertgen brother decided to dissolve their partnership. On November 18, 1942, at the Missouri State Fair grounds in Sedalia, a sale of all jacks and jennies of the partnership was held. At this time Bill Mertgen was 82 years of age, and Pete Mertgen was 79 years of age.

In 1947 Bill and Freida Mertgen purchased a home in Florence. In the fall they had a sale and then moved, along with Pete Mertgen, to Florence on November 21, 1947. That night Freida suffered a stroke and passed away the next morning.

Harry and his family lived on the Mertgen home place where they farmed and raised cattle. They remained on the home place until Harry's death in 1956. Bill and Pete continued to live in the home in Florence. Glenn and his family and Harry and his family moved in with him at different times to help care for him.

John Peter Mertgen died at a rest home in Warsaw in May, 1953. Bill Mertgen died at his daughter's home in Sedalia, January 1957. He was 94. Norman Mertgen lives in Monitou Springs, Colorado, and Emma Mertgen Sims lives in Kansas City, Missouri. There are numerous descendents of John Christian Mertgen and John Conrad Mertgen living in the Florence area.

JOHN CONRAD MERTGEN

Sometime around 1850 John Conrad Mertgen and John Christian Mertgen came to America with their wives and families. They settled in the Florence, Missouri, area. John Christian Mertgen was married to Annan Katharina Runkel. John Conrad Mertgen was married to Maria Margareta Nitzert. They all were born in Germany.

John Conrad Mertgen and family settled on a farm southeast of Florence. He was a farmer. There wer five children born to John Conrad and his wife, Maria Margareta. Three children, Anna Sophia,

(born Decmeber 5, 1841) married a Siegel. Katherine Margaretta (1844-1873) did not marry. Maria Margaretta or Maggie (born August 4, 1849) married a Kanenbley. Maria Lousia (dates unknown) married a Lemler. Lena (born in 1856) married a Richardson.

The John Conrad Mertgen farm remains in the family today. Paul Quincey Richardson owns and lives on the home place.

MILLER

Willaim Henry Miller was the son of Felix Henry Miller and Labitha Cramer Miller. He was born April 11, 1904, in Morgan County, Missouri. On December 24, 1925, he married Margaret Browning. Margaret was born August 5, 1904 in Richmond, Virginia. They had two children: Maryellen, born August 4, 1927, and June Delores, born June 14, 1929.

In 1939 William Henry married Gertrude Livingston nee White. They had one son, William Henry II, born in 1949 in Los Angeles, Claifornia.

William Henry Miller was a farmer.

WILLIAM MITCHELL

William Mitchell, the progenitor of our Morgan County Mitchells, was born in County Cork, Ireland about 1742. In 1760, while still a young man, he emigrated to America, then known as the English Colonies. In 1776 when the Colonies revolted and declared their independence, William Mitchell enlisted in the army under General George Washington and served throughout the war.

At the conclusion of the war, he settled at Spotsylvania Court House (Stony Creek), Virginia. There he married Ann Bohan and reared a family of five sons: Fredrick, William W. (ours), James, Jiles and Robert. Ann Bohan was the daughter of John Bohan, a French Huguenot, who had been expelled from France during the Inquisition because of his religious proclivities. John Bohan emigrated to the West Indies and at the beginning of the Revolutionary War came to America on the same ship with Alexander Hamilton, landing in Charleston, South Carloina. There, John Bohan enlisted in the army under General Francis Marian, also a Frenchman, and served through the war. At the conclusion of the hostilities, John Bohan, along with his family, settled at Spotsylvania Court House in Virginia.

When Daniel Boone began his trek westward beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains in search of a new country, William Mitchell, his five sons and John Bohan's family joined the expedition. William Mitchell's sons were now all grown and they separated from the father and scattered westward throughout the new country. Fredrick Mitchell, the eldest, settled in Nashville, Tennessee and reared a large family which, in turn, scattered throughout the South; James Mitchell settled in southern Illinois and reared a large family; Jiles Mitchell settled in Louisville, Kentucky and reared two sons. William W. Mitchell (ours) settled in Harrodsburg, Kentucky where Daniel Boone had established his headquarters and where the replica of the original Fort now stands; Robert Mitchell, the youngest, became a prominent lawyer and a distinguished judge and settled in Indianapolis, Indiana with his father. The father died there at the age of 110 years. Robert also died in Indianapolis.

Willaim W. Mitchell (my great-great-grandfather) was married first to Mary Ann (Polly) Basye on April 3, 1810, and she died prior to November 6, 1826 when he married Ann Bohon/Covert. William W. and Polly Mitchell's children were Joseph Mitchell; Mary Ann Mitchell; Eliza Mitchell; William B. Mitchell (who married Mary Cramer); Malinda Mitchell; and John M. Mitchell. William W. and Ann Mitchell's children were Peyton R. Mitchell; Walter P. Mitchell; Robert Mitchell (died in his teens); Andrew Jackson Mitchell; George Washington Mitchell; Thomas Hart Benton Mitchell and Edward Peyton Mitchell. (Ann Bohon/Covert had children by a previous marriage named Addison, John, Sallie and Harve Covert. Sallie married Joe Stevens of Bunceton, Missouri, and they were the parents of Lon V. Stevens, a Governor of Missouri from 1897-1901).

William W. Mitchell fought in the War of 1812 and was with General Andrew Jackson in the Battle of New Orleans. In 1832, William W. Mitchell and his family left Kentucky and came to Missouri where they first settled "in Saline County near Sedalia." By 1850, they had made their way to Morgan County, Missouri where they remained.

Little is known of the military records of William W. Mitchell's sons by Polly Basye. It would appear that they did not fight in the Civil War because they would have been perhaps too old for active service. William's children by his marriage to Ann Bohon/Covert, however, did enlist and serve.

Peyton R. Mitchell had served in the army dur-

ing the War with Mexico under General Winfield Scott, then returned to Missouri and was employed as a Professor of Languages at a college in Rich Hill near Kansas City. His name was mistakenly associated with Quantrell and a price was set on his head. He was forced to flee the state. He returned to Texas and enlisted in the Confederate Army, serving throughout the war, most of the time as a 2nd Lieutenant. At the conclusion of the war, he settled in Corpus Christi, Texas. He died in a Confederate Veteran's Home in Austin, Texas at the age of 97. I have a copy of his Civil War pension papers, and they are identified as "Rebel Archives."

Thomas Hart Benton Mitchell enlisted in the Union Army on March 11, 1862 and was discharged April 1, 1864. He attained the rank of 2nd Lieutenant also. He died March 7, 1916 in Akron, Colorado.

Andrew Jackson Mitchell and Walter P. Mitchell served in the Union Army. Andrew Jackson Mitchell, while in the Union Army, provided blacksmithing services. At the conclusion of the war, Andrew Jackson Mitchell settled in Whitesboro, Texas, and Walter P. Mitchell, after serving in Captain John P. Thatcher's Missouri Home Guards, farmed in various places (Cooper County near Palestine, Mineral Springs in Barry County, and finally in Lawrence County at Pierce City), and died at Mount Vernon in Lawrence County on February 20, 1906. George Washington Mitchell and Edward P. Mitchell also served in the Union Army.

It appears that Peyton R. Mitchell kept a diary during his lifetime because it came into the possession of David W. Mitchell, son of Walter P. Mitchell and nephew of Peyton. Peyton believed that his brother Thomas Hart Benton Mitchell enlisted in the Confederate Army; however, I have managed to procure Thomas' Civil War pension papers, and they indicate that he enlisted in the Union Army. Can you envision the grief that William W. and Ann Mitchell must have felt as their sons expressed their divided loyalties at the onset of the Civil War? It would appear that the remaining brothers did not know for many years whether Peyton had lived through the war or not because the comment was made that when Peyton fled from Missouri, he "saddled up his little silver-tailed riding mare under the obvious cover of darkness and headed toward Walter P. Mitchell's home in Cooper County at Speed, Missouri. There he rested up for a couple of days and while there, he swap-

ped Walter's wife, Elizabeth, out of her chestnut sorrel mare which she used for riding as she was a lover of good horses." Continuing, "He then left there, not announcing any specific destination. That was the last time they ever saw each other. No one of the family ever heard directly from him. He had gone South and had joined the Southern Army in Texas. Whether or not he espoused the cause of slavery, or whether it was the love of the state he sought to free, he never told." It is thought to be the latter reason.

William B. Mitchell, son of William W. and Polly Mitchell, married Mary Cramer of Morgan County. Their children were all born there; Mary Elizabeth, Edward Peyton, James Thomas W., Georgia Ann, David, and William Frances. The last daughter, William Frances Mitchell was born March 29, 1858, only a couple of months after the father, William B. Mitchell, died. It is fitting that Mary would want to name their child after her husband as a final homage to him.

My descendancy comes through James Thomas W. Mitchell who married Mary Abigail Wheeler. The children of this marriage were also born in Morgan County: James Ordell, Bertha Helena, Dakota A., Stella Frances, Effie, Elmer Alonza, Neoma Elmeda, Aneta Louretta, and the youngest, my Mother, Myrtle Rozella Mitchell who married James Frederick Bass.

Submitted by Dorothy Bass

MONROE, VAN DORN, J B LINNEY

Joseph Monroe married Fern Haily-Monroe. Their children were Wanita, Leonia Orr, Mildred, Wilma, Ruth, Lloyd, and Jay (deceased). Joseph is buried in Archie, Missouri, and Fern is currently living at Stover Nursing Home.

Wanita married Noah Van Dorn and their children were Alethea and Tim. Alethea married Bob Fields, Tipton, Missouri, and have one son, Calvin. Calvin married Mary Cox, and have two children, Nick and Theresa. Tim married Diane Campbell and have two children, Travis and Dixie.

Walter Linney married Violet Sargent and their children were J B, Smarec Wilson (deceased), Amel (deceased), Jess (deceased), Buck (deceased), Emmett (deceased), Minnie Jobe, Sedalia, Missouri and Tillie Carver, Gravois Mills, Missouri.

J B Linney married Fay Lawson (deceased, buried in Stover Cemetery). They had two children, Charlie (deceased) and Jerry. Charlie married Joan

Lindsey. Jerry married Beverly Lowe. They have two children, Brian and Kevin and live in Liberty, Missouri.

J B and Wanita were married and live in the Florence area. J B owned and operated a filling station in Florence and hauled milk for several years from area farmers to Kraft Foods in Versailles.

Submitted by
Timmy Van Dorn, Smithton

OEHRKE

Bernard (Ben), 11-9-1889 to 7-31-1974, married Bessie Kanenbly, 5-1-1899 to 10-15-1988, on 4-28-1945. They had no children. Ben remained on the family farm until around 1934, when he accepted a position with an amusement vending machine company in Sedalia as a salesman and repairman. He remained there for thirteen years. He and a partner purchased equipment and set up B & G Music Company in Jefferson City. After a year Ben bought out the business and operated it for five years under the name Oehrke Music Company.

Bessie attended college in Sedalia. She was employed in law, insurance, real estate, and later civil service in Kansas City.

Ben sold the music company and moved to Kansas City where he worked at a funeral home and later for John Marshal Office Equipment Company for ten years.

After their retirement, they moved to Sedalia. Ben died of an unexpected heart attack following an unrelated surgery. They are buried in Highland Sacred Gardens in Sedalia.

Otto, 11-25-1902 to 1-22-1985, was the youngest of Henry and Sophia Oehrke's children. He married Grace Fowler in 1933. They had one son Alonzo, 2-11-1934. He lives in Independence, Missouri.

While living in Versailles in the 1930's and 1940's, he drove a bulk truck for Standard Oil. He was then transferred to Jefferson City. While living in Jefferson City, he and Grace were divorced. He later transferred to St. Louis where he met and married Christine Bellamy who still lives in Florissant, Missouri.

He retired from Standard Oil in 1972 at which time he moved a trailer home on his nephew Leo's farm - his desire being to live on his homeplace. Otto and Christine lived there until they could no longer maintain a household.

Before his death, he had to have a leg amputated because of a sore that wouldn't heal and bad circulation. He is buried in St. John's UCC Cemetery beside his parents.

OEHRKE

Earnest Oehrke, 5-17-1894 to 5-22-1974, married Mary Semkin, 2-22-1896 to ?, on 1-26-1916. They were the parents of two children Earl and Opal. They lived in the Florence area for a good many years before moving to Smithton in 1943 and later Sedalia. They were members of St. John's (Evangelical and Reform) United Church of Christ and Immanuel UCC of Sedalia. Earnest, Mary, their children, and their spouses were all confirmed at St. John's.

Earnest and Mary were both musically inclined. Earnest played the fiddle and guitar. He taught Earl and the neighbor boys to play these instruments. He and Earl played at a great many barn dances in the 1930's.

Mary played the piano and taught Opal and friends to play. Opal still gives piano lessons and can play anything by ear or by note.

Earl, 12-4-1916 to 8-12-1984, married Ruby Zimmerschied, 5-14-1919, on 3-24-1940. They have two children Carolyn and Richard. They lived in the area until Earl's death in 1984. Earl was a carpenter and built a great many houses in Sedalia and surrounding areas.

Carloyn, 1-26-1943, married Dale Montogomery, 7-25-1942, on 9-5-1965. They have two children Tammy and Shannon. Both of their children took piano lessons from Opal. Tammy played the pipe organ at Immanuel UCC for 7 years before her marriage and job took her to Kansas City.

Tammy, 11-4-1966, married James Blake, 9-29-1965 and they have one child Brittany born 9-22-1989.

Shannon, 10-22-1969, is unmarried.

Richard, 2-27-1945, married Judy Templeton, 1-19-1950, on 10-11-1968. They have three children, Michael, 5-24-1970, Jason, 4-16-1973, and Jada, 1-8-1976. Michael and Jason play the guitar and Jada plays the piano. Both boys attend college and Jada attends Smithton High School.

Opal, 2-14-1920, married Edgar Zimmerschied, 1-24-1917, on 4-27-1941. There were two daughters born to them Mary Ann and Joyce.

Mary Ann, 6-9-1944, married James Richwine, 8-8-1944, on 2-14-1964. They have two daughters

Jamie Ann and Kimberly. Jamie and Kimberly both play the piano.

Jamie, 11-15-1965, will marry Paul Blackwell, 5-21-1950, on 7-18-1992. Jamie also played the pipe organ at Immanuel UCC for 3 years before Tammy. She attended college in Springfield where she became a registered nurse.

Kimberly, 7-1-1971, besides playing the piano also has a beautiful voice. She also went to college in Springfield.

Joyce, 6-12-1949, died 8-3-1986.

OEHKE

Henry C.A. Oehrke was born October 21, 1832 in Germany, coming to America at age 17. He married Martha Marie Monsees, Bramer, Germany. She was born November 3, 1837. They settled in Morgan County and had seven sons and three daughters: Henry (born May 6, 1860), Wilmenia, Louis, Margaret, August C., Christian, Martin, Gavert, Conrad, and Anna Gescha.

Henry married Sophia Kurtz born November 10, 1867. They lived west of Florence. On December 10, 1894, they bought the Oehrke homestead southwest of Florence from Sarah Toler, widow of Jesse Toler. Graves of the previous owners are still on the Oehrke farm. A grandson Leo Oehrke and his family still live there. Henry and Sophia had six sons and one daughter: August, Anna Margaret (died at the age of two), Edward, William, Earnest, Bernard (Ben), and Otto.

Edward, 10-23-1891 to 7-8-1970, married Emma Bottcher, 3-10-1891 to 6-10-1955, on 3-14-1915 at Florence, Missouri. They had two son Emil and Leo.

Emil, 11-2-1917, married Lois Rasa, 12-23-1924 to 3-20-1987, on 9-2-1946. They had three children, an infant daughter, Charles, and Judy.

Emil worked at the Smithton Creamery and later at Tullis Hall in Sedalia where he retired.

Charles, 11-9-1948, married Sharon Gocherhour, 12-28-1949 on 9-14-1968. They have two children Kristin 3-10-1973 and Chad 1-21-1978. Charles works on construction. He lives on Rt. #1, Smithton.

Judy, 9-22-1951, married Bill Hays on 12-13-1975. They have two daughters Stephanie, 3-27-1978, and Jennifer, 11-15-1980. Judy attended State Fair Community College. She and her family live in Overland Park, Kansas.

Leo, 3-31-1927, married Evelyn Rumans, 3-20-1934, on 9-27-1953. They have five children, Leo Jr. (L.R.), Gayle, Ronald, Sharon, and Jenelle.

L.R., 8-22-1954, married Mary Martin, 11-29-1953, on 12-8-1972. They have two sons. Paul, 3-24-1975, and Craig, 10-23-1977.

Gayle, 8-8-1957, attended State Fair College and now lives and works in Sedalia.

Ron, 6-10-1962, married Margaret (Maggie) Kennedy, 1-23-1961, on 7-29-1989 and they have a daughter Megan, 5-13-1991.

Sharon, 2-11-1967, married Terry Perriguy, 9-21-1961, on 5-30-1987 and have a son Ethan, 9-12-1991. Sharon like her brother and sister attended State Fair College and also CMSU and now teaches at LaMonte where they live on a farm.

Jenelle, 6-2-1972, plans to marry Daniel Schroder, 10-19-1967, on 7-25-1992. She works at Gerbes in Versailles and plans to attend State Fair Community College in the fall.

Leo, L.R., and Ron all own farms in the Florence area, but like many others must seek employment in the surrounding towns. Leo and L.R. work in Sedalia at Lamy Mfg. having been there 39 and 20 years respectively. Ron works in Tipton at Proctor Building Materials.

Henry and Sophia became members of the (Evangelical and Reform Church) United Church of Christ sometime in the early 1900's having moved their membership from Pymont as it was too far for the boys to walk to church school (confirmation). The Oehrke families are still active in the Church. Leo and Evelyn and all of the children have been married in the church. They (Leo - secretary, Evelyn - treasurer, and L.R. - trustee) have all held offices in the church. Leo and Ron have served on the cemetery board with Leo still on at present time.

HENRY & SOPHIA OEHRKE ANCESTORS & DESENDANTS

Henry Christian August Oehrke and Martha Marie Monsees were married May 1, 1857. Both were born in Germany. They had seven boys and three girls. One being Henry Louis Oehrke who married Sophia A. Kurtz, March 25, 1886. They were the parents of six boys and one girl, Anna Margaret who died in 1891 at the age of 8 months. The boys were August, Ed, Bill, Ernest, Ben & Otto. August married Frances Geminden. Edward married Emma Boatcher. William (Bill) married

Bessie Ditzfield. Ernest married Mary Semkin. Ben married Bessie Kannelby and Otto married Grace Fowler and later married Christine V. Bellamy.

August was born June 17, 1887. He married Sena Brauer, December 18, 1912. Sena died after 5 years of marriage from pneumonia. There were no children born in this marriage. This was during World War I. After Sena passed away, August went into the Army. He played the cornet in the Army Band. He would speak of the influenza epidemic at that time. He often told us of the time when he was guarding the building where they were bringing the soldiers that had died. He thought he heard someone moan and called for help. The man lived and he was from Otterville. The gentleman passed away maybe three years before my father.

August worked for Carl Siegel in his store. Earnest (August brother) was ill and in the Otterville Hospital. My mother (Frances Geminden) was a registered nurse and worked for Dr. Osborne at this hospital. This was where August met Frances and they were married August 15, 1926.

Donald was born to them November 10, 1928 at Florence in a house (now destroyed by fire) maybe three houses west of the church. My father was a member of this church, then known as the Evangical Church of Florence. This is the only place I ever heard my father sing and he would sing in a quartet. I think with Earnest Duval and Elmer Houchen and some others. Even I have happy memories going to church there. I remember my Sunday School Class meeting in the little room in the belfry.

My parents later moved to Versailles where he worked digging ditches. They then moved to Smithton where he worked at the Smithton Creamery. I (Darlene) was born at this time on May 2, 1930. Daddy worked at the Creamery until around 1935. The doctor said he should get out in the fresh air for his health. He found out about a job at the lake from one of the pastors from Florence named Rev. Schrader (Sp). It was with his uncle at a resort called Hildabrants Resort. We lived there around two or three years. Our next move was moving back to Florence on the Harry Bremer place south of town on Hwy 135. My father sold Watkins products. I remember going with him and listening to him speak low (I think) German. Maybe that is how I remember so many of the people at Florence.

My brother and I would walk to school with the Hartmans, Eldenburgs and Paul Duval. I'm sorry

to see the school in the shape it is now, because it was the first school I can really remember. Especially the plays the community would present. I remember one where several dressed up like school children going to school. Vard Houchen said a speech, standing with his arms outstretched and saying, "There were two crows that sat on the fence, KAW, KAW, KAW" and he would flap his arms. They even pulled a spring wrapped with black material on a string to look like a snake across the stage and this was to scare the girls. I loved every minute of it. What memories!

My father then returned to his job as cream tester at the Smithton Creamery. This resulted in our family moving back to Smithton and my parents buying the only house they ever owned. My mother (Frances) went back to special duty nursing. Later they both retired there.

Our boys would always love to sit and listen to their grandfather reminice about his early years at Florence. How he rode horseback to confirmation school on Saturday which was 5 miles. And he told of how he saved up \$8.00 during the summer for school supplies, school clothes, and having some money left over.

I remember how we would go to Grandma (Sophia) Oehrke's for dinner on Sundays and her delicious sugar cookies. In her back yard was a misshapen tree. This was our horse. The tree is still there. I remember my grandfather (Fritz) very little but I do remember my father holding me up to his casket to see him. I can still see this picture in my mind. I was four years old. Grandmother Sophia's last few months were spent at my parents home where she passed away on December 28, 1945.

Donald joined the Navy after high school. After his discharge he went to work for IBM wher he worked until his death three years ago last March. He had four children: Linda Mahaffey of California (one daughter and two grandchildren), Kevin Oehrke (one son) of California, Karen Rutherford of California, and Kristen Coto of Pennsylvania.

Darlene married Ralph Thomas and are the parents of four boys. Rodney, who has a daughter Teasha and a son Brett. Rodney is a chiropractor in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Karis, who married Mary Ann Kahrs (her grandfather was Frank G. Bremer from Florence). They have a daughter Erin and a son Zachary. Karis works for UPS and Mary Ann teaches at Parkview school in Sedalia. Dwayne has a daughter Mandy and a son

Trenton. He works at Waterloo. His wife Tina is manager of Diet Center in Sedalia. Chris is not married. He received his Masters Degree in Theater and Vocal at Memphis State University. He is now living in Hollywood, California working for a law firm and performing in the theater.

We had a dairy farm for 42 years. Ralph now has a beef herd. I am now working at the Pettis County Records Office in Sedalia.

We moved several times in my lifetime, but Florence will always hold a special place in my heart. The people seemed to visit more. I remember my parents visiting Leonard and Pearl Siegel in their log cabin, Kate Wagenknecht, Edwin and Helen Bremer, Harry and Maggie Bremer, the Hartmans, Eldenburgs, Duvals, Bretalls, Sluders, Baughmans, etc.

Will my children have the memories of their childhood as I do? Or are our times changing too much and not taking time for each other? I'm thankful for my grandparents, parents, family and their heritage. It was a town and area my father dearly loved.

Thanks for the memories
Darlene (Oehrke) Thomas

WILLIAM C. OEHRKE AND BESSIE DITZFELD OEHRKE

William C. Oehrke, son of Henry Louis Oehrke and Sohia Kurtz Oehrke, was born January 17, 1897 in the Florence area of Morgan County, Missouri. Bessie Katherine Ditzfield, the daughter of Fred Ditzfield and Matilda Hoehns Ditzfield, born June 30, 1900, in the Stover area of Morgan County. They were married December 18, 1917. William C. and Bessie Oehrke's children were: Shelby Orlin Oehrke, Cathlene Mae Oehrke, and Erbelyn Phyllis Oehrke.

Shelby Orlin Oehrke was born May 30, 1919. He attended and graduated from high school at Florence, Missouri in 1936. He joined the United States Navy in 1942 and served until discharged in October, 1945. He was married to Fern Audrey Jernigan, born December 30, 1921, on July 8, 1943 in San Diego, California. Their children are: Kathryn Mae Oehrke and Barbara Jean Oehrke.

Kathryn Mae Oehrke was born April 18, 1944. On October 30, 1964 she was married to James Donald Gibson, born March 24, 1939 in Wheelwright, Kentucky. Their children are: Richard Grant Gibson, born May 5, 1965. He is

pursuing a PhD in Applied Mathematics from the University of California at Berkeley. John Robert Gibson, born September 28, 1969. On March 22, 1991 he married Christine Adams. He is currently serving with the United States Marine Corps. Their child is Johnathan Madison Gibson, born August 22, 1991 in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

On November 24, 1974 Kathryn Oehrke was married to John Duane Grandfield, born August 16, 1948 in Warrensburg, Missouri. Their child is Michael Wayne Grandfield, born October 5, 1975.

Barbara Jean Oehrke was born February 13, 1949. In 1968 she was married to Charles Ellis Brown, born July 17, 1945. Their child is: Kenneth William Brown, born October 15, 1970. He is presently serving with the United States Coast Guard.

Catherine Mae Oehrke was born December 31, 1922 and died October 5, 1924. She is buried at Lake Creek Cemetery.

Erbelyn Phyllis Oehrke was born July 24, 1927. On June 17, 1945 she married Marvin Lee May, born February 1, 1924. Their children are: William Lee May and Connie Phyllis May.

William Lee May was born July 16, 1949 and married Sandra Lee Dorsey on March 25, 1972. Their children are: William Lee May Jr., born April 27, 1974, Clint Eugene May, born July 5, 1976, Curtis Ray May, born September 10, 1982.

Connie Phyllis May was born June 17, 1952. On April 5, 1974 she married Johnnie Eugene Ehlers. Their children are: Christopher John Ehlers, born August 10, 1976, Amy Lee Ehlers, born December 12, 1985.

SANDERS-BRUNKHORST

Marvin Sanders was born in Shrewsbury, Vermont. He married Lenora A. Graves and together they travelled west to Illinois and finally settled in Morgan County, Missouri. Lenora died and is believed to be buried near Versailles. Their children were Edmond Conrance, Egbert Columbia Graves "Bert", Lila and Luther. In 1864 Marvin married a widow, Barbary Teffenteller Lewis Key. In 1865, they moved their family to a farm in Richland Township, northwest of Florence. Joseph, Caroline Delaney (Lanie) and Harvey Abraham were added to the family.

Egbert Columbia Graves "Bert" was a farmer north of where his father farmed. Bert also owned a scale where the public came to weigh grain, etc.



Left to Right: Flora, Arlie, C.G. (Bert), Lillian, Alma, and Henry Sanders

Bert married Mary Anna Cramer "Annie." She was the daughter of the Rev. Caleb H. Cramer. Bert's children were Flora Ida May, who married Ed

Homan, Lillian Emmagene "Lily", who married Charles Brunkhorst, James Arlington "Arley", who married Lucy Speaker and Henry Albert Sanders, who married Emma Brunkhorst, a sister to Charles, making the children double cousins.

John Brunkhorst came to the Cole Camp area from Hanover, Germany as a small child with his father who was looking for his brother who had come to Missouri. John Brunkhorst fought in the Union Army during the Civil War. Family stories say he was the only survivor of the Battle of Cole Camp. He married Caroline Cordes "Carrie" and settled in Morgan County in about 1870. John was a carpenter and farmer. The Brunkhorsts were good musicians. Many of their eleven children played instruments. Otto was in the Florence band, Lettie gave piano lessons, and Emma played the organ at the Bethlehem Baptist Church.

Henry Sanders was a farmer on the farm north of his father's on Flat Creek. For a time in the 1930's, he was the local Justice of Peace. Emma Brunkhorst Sanders taught school before her marriage. Children of Henry Sanders were Paul Gregory, John Egbert, Carrie Anna and Eugene Henry.

Paul Sanders married Marion Etta Reneau and still lives on the place where he was born and grew



Front Row: Lilda (Brunkhorst) Ringen, Emma (Brunkhorst) Sanders, John Brunkhorst, Caroline Brunkhorst, Caroline's sister?, Agusta Brunkhorst. Back Row: Charles Brunkhorst, Katie (Brunkhorst) Jones, Ada Brunkhorst, Otto Brunkhorst, Lettye Brunkhorst.

up. He ran a dairy farm there for forty years. Before farming, he worked for the MFA Exchange in Florence. After retiring from farming, he worked as a custodian at State Fair Community College. Marion taught school in area schools for 33 years. Their children were Phillip Gale and Emma Katherine, who is married to Robert L. Bennett and lives in the area, as do their sons R. Edward Bennett and Brian Sinclair and her daughter Sharon Sinclair Peery.

Brian Sinclair served in the Persian Gulf with the US Army, and Sharon Sinclair Peery is an active duty member of the Missouri National Guard. Stefanie Sinclair, Cory, Cortney and Curtis Peery (children of Brian Sinclair and Sharon Sinclair Peery) are the seventh generation of the Sanders family living in the Florence community at this time.

John Sanders married Ruby Page. He also worked for the MFA Exchange in Florence. His children are Elizabeth Ann, married Alan Hazelrigg; Sharon Elaine, married Richard Curtis and Ada Maurine married Alvin Koeller. The Koellers live on the Brunkhorst place next to where Marvin Sanders settled in 1865.

Carrie Anna Sanders taught in area schools. She also served in the US Army during World War II.

Eugene Henry Sanders taught in area schools. He was taken into the Army Air Corps when his National Guard unit was activated during World War II. Eugene was a fighter pilot. On November 17, 1942 in Egypt, Eugene became the first Morgan Countian to die in World War II when his plane crashed during a test flight.

The Sanders family has lived in the Florence area for over 100 years.

Submitted by
Emma Bennett,

SCHRODER FAMILY

Walter Schroder was one of six children born to William Schroder and Anna Pregge Schroder.

Walter was the grandson of John Henry Schroder and Dorothea Harms Schroder who came over from Germany in the early eighteen hundreds.

Walter married Opal Kurtz on April 8, 1933. They had seven children and lived northeast of Florence on the family farm. They raised hogs, sheep and cattle. Walter played a clarinet in the Florence band until they disbanded.

Submitted by Leo Schroder

DUANE SCHRODER



Duane Schroder, 1955

I have a lot of memories of growing up in the Florence area, like Walter Thompson's 50 cent hair cuts, the church picnics at the Hanging Rock, Sunday afternoons when all the boys in the area would head for the swimming hole, and Saturday nights when everyone headed for town.

I remember my uncle, August Hartman, ran the thrashing machine, and all the women would fix those big dinners for the thrashing crew, my Grandpa Kurtz taking my brother and I fishing in Gabriel Creek and attending grade school at the old Mt. Olive School.

I was born three and one-half miles east of Florence to Opal Schroder and the late Walter Schroder. My mother now lives in Tipton, Missouri.

I now live at Route 1, Box 278, Smithton. My wife's name is Judy, and we have four daughters and four grandchildren. I own property east of Florence, across the creek from where I was born and raised. I am a stockman and also employed with the County of Pettis as Supervisor of Maintenance for the Pettis County Court House, Pettis County Jail, and the Pettis County Juvenile Center.

The city of Florence, its people, and the years I spent there are certainly among my favorite memories.

Submitted by
Duane Schroder

CLARENCE L. SCHRODER

Clarence Lee Schroder spent his entire life on the homeplace with the exception of the short time spent in a nursing home before his death. Clarence was born June 6, 1899, and died May 30, 1985. On January 30, 1927, Clarence married Anna Wiecken, a school teacher from Glensted,

Missouri. Daddy had a horse named Old Dobbin that he drove while courting Momma and he said the horse knew his way back and forth so well that Daddy could catch a nap on the way home. Mother taught in Centennial and also Lemler schools. They met at a box supper at Rocky Point School. When Daddy took her home it was her first date.

Clarence and Anna had four children: Emma Dorean, Waneta Irene, Milton Leroy and Laverna June.

Dorean married Harold Eugene Case on September 21, 1947, and they had three daughters: Doris, Karen and Annette. Doris is an R. N. and works at St. Lukes Hospital in Kansas City. Karen married Mike Tollefson on May 12, 1973. They have two sons: Christopher born March 21, 1975, and Jared born August 28, 1980. Annette married Lee Shelly Pemberton IV on June 11, 1983. They have two sons: Lee Shelly V born November 30, 1986, and Sean Louis born May 3, 1991.

Waneta married James B. Dudley on May 23, 1954. They reside in Overland Park, Kansas. They have two children: Julia Ann and Joseph Eric. At this time Julia is serving in the Air Force stationed in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Joe married Cathy Hein on August 13, 1983, and they have two children: Craig and Stephanie. Joe works for Sprint in Kansas City.

Milton married Myrna Geary from Stover on March 5, 1960. Milton resides on the Schroder homeplace three miles east of Florence. Milton and Myrna have two children: Mark Stewart and Mona Janine. Mark is married to the former Tammy Hiscox. They were married May 8, 1991. They live in Juneo, Florida. Mona lives at the Schroder farm and is attending college.

Laverna married Donald O. Zimmerschied on January 4, 1959. They own and operate a dairy farm five miles west of Florence—as the crow flies. They have four children: Donna June, Victor Lee, Brian Don and Jill Elaine, (who are twins.)

Donna married Brice Marrow Bell on July 27, 1987, and they have three year old twin daughters: Alexa Nan and Kayla June. Donna is a R.N. and they live in Sedalia where Brice does house painting. Victor is living at home at present. He is a LPN and

works in the emergency room at Bothwell Hospital. Brian married Anisa Weicht on May 14, 1988. They have a two year old daughter, Brittany Dawn. Brian farms with his father and Anisa is going to school to get her LPN degree and then her R.N. Jill, an agriculture graduate of the University of Missouri in Columbia, is also working on the family farm. Her husband Brent Harms who is a receiving clerk at Payless Cashways in Sedalia. They live on the former Walter Reusch farm. Laverna works part time at the Florence Post Office.

Submitted by
Laverna Zimmerschied

JOE SCHRODER

Joe Schroder was born July 12, 1888, at Florence, Missouri. His parents were Herman J. (Harmon) and Margeretha Hinken Schroder. In 1910, our father purchased his farm from the Pregge family. In 1913, he married Alice Hilderbrandt and they spent their entire life there.

They were the parents of five children: Ruth, Pearl, Mildred, Eva, and son Kenneth, who is a prominent farmer in the area.

The Florence Methodist Church was a very important part of their lives. We believe our father was the first child christened in the new Ebenezer Church. Joe Schroder was on the Lemler School Board for many years.

Joe Schroder was certainly a good neighbor and he also had good neighbors—among them Chris



The Herman J. Schroder family with 13 children. It wasn't possible to photograph them all at one time so the boys were taken first and then the girls. Back Row: Joe, John, Albert. Front Row: Louis, Earl, Herman J., Margareta, Clarence, Amos.



Back Row: Laura, Anna, Cena, Ida. Front Row: Katie, Herman J., Margareta, and Lydia Schroder.

Schlichtig, Tom Bramble, John Klein, and Lewis Siegel. He shared work in threshing wheat, filling silo, butchering, and cutting wood.

Our father would help any way he could if there was illness, and in case of a death he often sat up all night in the home. He helped dig many graves and often served as a pall bearer. Mary Schlichtig was certainly a good friend to our Mother and was present when all five children were born. We are proud of our heritage.

Submitted by
Pearl Helman, daughter

JOHN HENRY SCHRODER

While researching the family history, we came up with several interesting facts beside the actual family history of names and birthdates. The land that now makes up what we know as the Schroder homeplace was acquired in several tracts, each with its own patent number. These patents are dated from 1849 through 1855, the oldest being #34410. Most were patented to Fredrich Harms, who is the father of Dorothea Harms, who was the wife of John Henry Schroder, who immigrated from Hanover, Germany. These two young people were married in 1850. By using tax receipts and so forth we are fairly sure that our great-grandfather was an active participant in the farm purchase and management from the time of the very early patents, or he became involved very soon after the first one.

In 1850, John Henry Schroder filed a paper with the county court pledging his allegiance to the

United States of America, and renouncing his citizenship in and his allegiance to the "King of Hanover, Germany." At the top of this paper it states "Schroeder spelled with "e" but, at the bottom of the page in our great-grandfather's own hand it is spelled SCHRODER, so the controversy of the correct spelling of the Schroder name has been going on, at least, since 1850.

At one point, early on, the clearing of brush from the land was over zealously done and then it was found that a portion of the land that had been cleared belonged to the neighbor, so arrangements were made to purchase the cleared land

from John Gerken. In 1888 the land was purchased by Herman J. Schroder, my grandfather. In 1933 it was purchased by Clarence L. Schroder, my father. In 1976 my brother, Milton L. Schroder became the owner and he is the owner at this time.

John Henry Schroder was married to Dorothea Harms, daughter of Fredrich Harms. They had seven children: Mary Schroder Wohlbeck, Fredrich Schroder, (also called Fritz), Henry Schroder, who died in his teens, Dora Schroder, who died in infancy, Sophia K. Schroder Rodenkohr, William R. Schroder, and Herman J. Schroder. Herman was a charter member of both Ebenezer Church that was located east of Florence and the Florence Methodist Church.

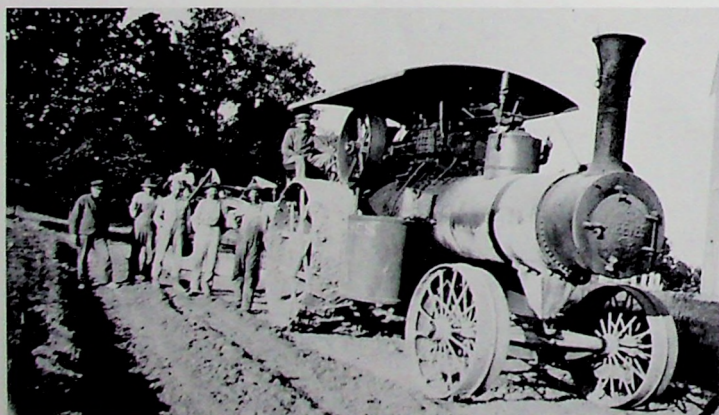
Herman John Schroder married Margaretha Hinken, January 1879 at Pymont by Rev. John Meyer. They had 15 children, two who died in infancy. John Fredrich Schroder (1880-1839), married Ella A. Showengert of Independence, Louis A. Schroder (1881-1972), was married to Ola Steel of Syracuse, and Gesena Dorothy (Cena) Schroder (1883-1961). Gesena Schroder married Chris Mayer, a preacher, of Smithton, Missouri. Ida Marie and Laura Martha Schroder, twins, were born in 1885. Ida married Adloph Ahrens of Woodbine, Kansas. She died in 1918. Laura married Will Mahnken of Florence, Missouri. She died in 1962. Joseph H. Schroder (1888-1958), was married to Alice Hilderbrandt of Florence, Missouri. Albert W. and Anna Schroder were twins born in 1890. Albert married Emma Kopp of Woodbine, Kansas in 1913, and he died in 1932. Anna married George Grupe of Florence, Missouri. She died in

1981. Amos H. Schroder (1892-1972), married Aurellia Micholkowsky (divorced). Later, he married Opal Riley. Lydia T. Schroder (1893-1977), married Martin Monseess who died in 1836, and later she married Edwin Gerken of Mora, Missouri. Kate A. Schroder (1895-1927), married John Lemler of Florence, Missouri. Earl Schroder (1897-1972), married Ida Mitchell of Florence, Missouri. Clarence Lee Schroder (1899-1985), married Anna Wiecken of Glensted, Missouri.

Clarence and Anna had four children: Dorean Schroder Case, Waneta Schroder Dudley, Milton Schroder, and Laverna Schroder Zimmerschied.

SLUDER FAMILY

Charles C. Sluder, born March 1, 1885, left his three brothers in St. Louis and moved to Florence. There he married Rachel Jane Dial born March 10, 1840. They lived southwest of Florence on the farm where Governor Jackson spent the night of the Cole Camp battle on his way to Springfield, Missouri during the Civil War. The Oehrke family residence, near the Sluder farm, was later entered by the bushwackers. The bushwackers started a fire in the middle of the living room in an effort to get the womenfolk to tell where their husbands were. The men had escaped and were hiding west of the house in heavy timber. The timber still exists today.



Charles Sluder and Threshing Crew in the 1920's

Charles C. died at an early age, but Rachel, better known as Jane, lived with her son, Steven. Steven Carter Sluder was born August 25, 1865. He married Wilamenia Caroline Oehrke born October 13, 1862. She was the daughter of Henry Christian Oehrke, born in Germany, and Marie

Martha Monsees, also born in Germany. They bought and moved to the Siegel farm, which joined their farm on the north, in 1902. This farm is now the Ray Baughman farm. It was also the location of the Butterfield Station in about 1856.

Steve and Wilamenia had three children: Charles August, born November 16, 1886; Emma May, born July 28, 1889; and Mary Annie, born March 27, 1890. Steve farmed and did custom grain thrashing. He had his own steam engine for power and he and his threshing crew would be gone from the farm for several weeks. Charlie and Mary kept the home work done—corn cultivating, haying (hay stacked loose to be hauled in winter), tending the livestock and preparing for the fall planting of wheat. The Sluders also did custom molasses making from neighbor's cane crops.

Charles A. married Lessie May Houchen, daughter of David and Martha Goodman Houchen. The Houchens lived on a farm west of Florence. Charles and Lessie had two daughters: Marie Ellen born May 12, 1918, and Angeline May born January 5, 1924. Marie married Lawrence Henry Zimmerschied, son of Carl and Lillian Semkin Zimmerschied. They lived west of Florence until their retirement and are now living in Sedalia. They have one son, Lawrence Allen, born September 4, 1948. Allen married Joyce Bell, daughter of Thomas and Betty Johnson Bell, and lives on the Zimmerschied family farm. They have twin daughters, Jody and Michelle born June 19, 1978. Angeline married Leon Burkhalter, son of August and Clara Kirchoff Burkhalter. They now live in Blue Springs, Missouri. They have one daughter, Charlotte Denise, born August 25, 1955. She married Richard Klein and they live in the state of California.

Emma May Sluder married Harley Wesley Lewis. They built a new home on a vacant lot across the street from St. John's parsonage in Florence. Wes worked as an electrician selling and installing home light plants. Before moving to Sedalia they added three children to the growing population: Clarice born in 1906, Naomi Marie born October 1, 1909, and Harold Wesley born August 14, 1920. All are now deceased. No children were born to these children.

Mary Annie Sluder married Albert Cleveland Baughman. They had one son, Albert Ray, born February 16, 1924. Ray can barely remember his

great-grandmother Jane. He and his mother lived with his grandparents, Steve and Jane, for a short time after his father's (Albert) death. All three, Jane, Steve and Albert, died within one year leaving Mary and little five year old Ray alone on the family Sluder farm. Ray remembers Jane, who was blind, sitting on a step between the two room house and a lean-to kitchen. She would strike her match in a wide arc around in front of her to light her clay pipe. Steve always kept Sunday as a day of rest. Although he was not church inclined he would put on clean clothes, sit in his favorite rocking chair, and smoke his curved stem briar-pipe. He only smoked on Sunday. The other days of the week he chewed that "good-ole" home-grown tobacco. That was his favorite smoke also.

Ray married Beatrice Marie Merk on June 1, 1947, and eight years later they built a new home on a site across the road from the Butterfield Station site. Ray and Beatrice were blessed with three children and six grandchildren. See Baughman and Merk histories for more details of this family. Although the German language has been lost, the good German cooking secrets still prevail in this Florence community.

Submitted by
Beatrice Baughman

F. H. RASA

F. H. (Fred) Rasa was born December 1, 1873 near Pymont, Missouri. Fred was the oldest son of Fritz and Minna Brant-Rasa. They both were born in Hanover, Germany. Both families came to the U.S. by way of New Orleans, Louisiana, to St. Louis and up the Missouri River to Boonville. Both families settled in Pymont neighborhood. Fritz and Minna were married March 6, 1873.

Fred grew up on a farm and married Betty Schupp on March 8, 1895. One son, William, was born. He married Mable Hilderbrant of Florence. Their children were Leland, Beulah, Janice, LeAna and Teddy. William farmed near Florence until he moved to Marshall, Missouri.

After the death of Betty Schupp-Rasa, Fred married Lena Tieman on December 2, 1900. Five daughters were born, two died at birth, but Pearl, Roma and Rita grew up in Florence. Pearl married Arbie Welpman and lived and farmed near Concordia, then sold the farm and moved to town. They have one daughter, Maxine. Arbie died May, 1978.

Rita married Early Welpman. Their children were Franklin, Norma June, Rosa Lee, and Bobby. Bobby drowned in a pond at the age of 12.

Roma married Carl Siegel on December 21, 1927. He owned the general store in Florence, where they lived until 1942, then moved to their farm Northeast of Florence. Roma died April 12, 1988. Their children are Mary, Dorothy and Paul. A son was born June 24, 1943, but died the next day. Carl died August 27, 1964 and stepsons were Carl, Pete, and Eugene.

Fred's family lived on the Hummel property for 35 years, where he farmed and raised livestock. Fred was well known in Morgan County for the good mules he had. He was a member of the United Church of Christ at Florence and was buried in the Florence Cemetery on October 13, 1937.

CARL C. SIEGEL

Carl C. Siegel was born in Morgan County November 5, 1887. He was the son of W. P. and Charlotte Raffescien Siegel. He grew up in the Syracuse area and attended German school at Florence and Buford School. He married Mary DeHaven of Otterville on January 21, 1914. Three sons were born of this union: Carl born January 4, 1915, Peter born October 22, 1916, and Eugene born January 18, 1918. Mary died April 1, 1919.

In 1921 Carl bought a general store in Florence and moved there with his sons. On December 21, 1927, Carl married Roma Rasa of Florence. There were four children born to this union: Mary Frances born December 25, 1930, Dorothy born June 15, 1943, and Paul born November 16, 1947. Another son lived only one day. Carl and Roma continued to farm and sell merchandise in the store until 1941 when they sold the store and moved to their farm about five miles northeast of Florence. Carl died on August 27, 1964, and Roma died on April 12, 1988. Both are buried at Memorial Cemetery in Sedalia.

Carl D. received his B.S. degree from the University of Missouri in 1938 and his medical degree from New York University in 1940. He was commissioned in the U.S. Army in 1936. He served on active duty during WW II and then in the reserves. He practiced medicine for many years—most of these in Sedalia, Missouri. Carl married Ruth Sutcliffe of Maryland on August 6, 1943. Ruth died February 26, 1978. Carl lives in Kansas City. They had two children: Carol who lives in Kansas City and Carl II who married Katherine Smith of

Maryland. Carl II and Katherine have one son, Ian born March 12, 1989.

Peter V. received his B.S. degree from the University of Missouri and his medical degree from New York University. He served on active duty in the Navy during both WW II and the Korean conflict. He practiced medicine in Smithton, and then entered government service with the Federal Aviation Agency. On September 14, 1940, he married Mary Cunningham of Kansas City. They had three children: Pete II married Betty Monsees of Smithton and they have two children. Betsy married Charlie Good of Oklahoma. Audie is married to Larry Akins and has two children, Phillip and Barbara. She lives in Texas. Pete and Mary Liz live in Florida.

Eugene received a B.S. degree in horticulture from the University of Missouri in 1941. He enlisted in the Marines and began active duty right after graduation. He made the Marines his career. He spent much of WW II in the South Pacific and was awarded both the Silver and Bronze Star. He retired from the Marines in 1968 with the rank of colonel. On May 24, 1946, he married Mary Shedee of Illinois. They made their home in California. They had one son, Michael (Mike) who is a teacher on Guam. Mike married Fe Velasco of Guam on August 18, 1984, and they have one child, Jean, born May 10, 1989. Eugene died October 10, 1991.

Mary Frances attended CMSU in Warrensburg and then entered St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Kansas City. She graduated from St. Luke's in 1952 and is a registered nurse. On June 5, 1954, she married Gerald Hesse of Curryville, Missouri. They live on a farm near Vandalia, Missouri, where they farm with their two sons, Kerry and Chris. Mary has worked many years as a school nurse. Kerry married Constance Klos of St. Louis on July 25, 1980. They have two children: Abbie Elizabeth born March 17, 1985, and Ryan Patrick born February 24, 1989. Another son was stillborn on July 28, 1981. His name was Kevin Price. Chris is not married.

Dorothy received her B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Missouri and is a registered nurse. She has worked as a nurse for many years in Springfield. On September 16, 1960 she married James Spencer of Tipton, and they live near Ozark, Missouri. They have four children: Debbie who married Chris Biggerstaff and lives in California, Brenda who married Mike Boatwright and lives in Kansas City, Jim Jr. who married Janella Pohlman

of Woolridge on July 14, 1990 and lives in Marionville, Missouri, and Michelle who is a student at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

William Paul received his B.S. degree in agriculture from the University of Missouri. He married Barbara Sirovy May 12, 1970. They have three children: Shelia, Paul II, and Joshua. Paul farms near Florence.

Submitted by
Mary Siegel Hesse

FREDRICK HENRY SIEGEL



Henry and Maria Siegel
married November 3, 1886

Fredrick Henry Siegel was the son of John Peter and Magdalena Rodenbaugh Siegel. He married Maria Eisenhart, daughter of John W. and Annie Bahrenburg Eisenhart. They farmed southeast of Florence.

In March of 1844 John Peter Siegel deeded some of his land to his son Henry and his daughter Maria Elizabeth Schupp. Mrs. Schupp was a widow. There were certain provisions with this transaction. Cash payments were made to other family members and John Peter and his wife, Magdalena, were to live with Henry and Maria Siegel and/or Lizzie Schupp as long as they lived. Henry and his sister, Lizzie, were to provide their parents "yearly twenty bushel of wheat and six barrels of corn and two fat hogs each to weigh at least two hundred pounds." They also were to support their parents as long as they were alive "with plenty to eat and plenty of clothing and in case of sickness to wait on them and pay their doctor bill." If John Peter or Magdalena became "dissatisfied to stay with us" Henry and Lizzie were to pay either parent one thousand dollars. "If we stay with them until our death one thousand shall belong to Maria

Elizabeth Schupp and F. Henry Siegel." They stayed.

In addition to caring for his parents in their old age, Henry and Maria Siegel had three sons: Herman, John, and Harold and two daughters: Annie (Mrs. Ross Kanenbley) and Lena (Mrs. ? Robertson).

Submitted by
Elvera Baumgartner Siegel

JOHN PETER SIEGEL

John Peter Siegel was born June 1, 1821, in Rusoheid, Neuwied, Coblenz, Germany. (Rusoheid was a small town in the "county" of Neuwied and "district" of Coblenz). He served in the 8th company of the Royal 29th Infantry Regiment. According to his military release papers, from which most of this information has been taken, he served nine months from October 1, 1843 to July 11, 1844. John Peter, according to these papers, was five feet three and one-half inches tall, of strong build, and had blonde hair. His conduct papers state that he conducted himself well during his service time.

John Peter married C. Magdalena Rodenbaugh, date unknown, in Germany. According to land deeds and wills her full name must have been Helene Katharina (or Catharina) Magdalena. The Siegels immigrated to the United States and settled on a place known as "Mark Hollow" east of Florence.

John Peter and Magdalena had seven children: Pete, Louis, Henry, Anna (Draffen), Lizzie (Schupp), Kate (Schlichtig), and Lou (Hess).

Submitted by
Elvera Baumgartner Siegel

WALTER HAROLD SIEGEL

Walter Harold Siegel, son of Henry and Maria Eisenhart Siegel, was born March 1, 1904, and died December 24, 1972. He married Maggie Verna Wiecken. Maggie was born and raised on a farm a few miles south of the Siegel farm.

Harold left home at age 15 and went east to the prairie around Versailles where he worked as a farmhand. He always enjoyed working with wood so in his late teens he left this area for Kansas City.



First Row: Henry, John Peter, Magdalena, and Pete. Second Row: Lizzie (Schupp), Anna (Draffen), Lewis, Kate (Schlichtig), and Lou (Hess).

His older sister, Lena, was living and working there at the time. In Kansas City he attended a cabinet making school. In order to pay his room and board Harold, found employment with a wealthy family in the city. His job was to keep the large furnace stoked with coal. He also had to recharge the batteries for the family's electric car every night.

Some years later Harold built a small shop on his farm east of Florence. After farm chores were finished or on a rainy day he would go to the shop and make lovely and sturdy furniture, usually of walnut. Before electricity reached this area he powered his lathe by using a harness line around the back wheel of his 1928 Chevrolet car!

Harold and Maggie had two sons, Donald and Shelby. Donald (October 2, 1929 - February 2, 1989) married Joan May of Florence. They had four children: Carolyn, who is a RN at the University of Missouri Hospital in Columbia; Shelly, who lives with her husband, Eric Buskirk, in New Jersey; Joyce married Brent Humphry and has two sons, Troy and Tyler; and Jim who lives on his home place and farms.

Shelby (May 16, 1936) married a fellow teacher, Elvera Baumgartner of Versailles. They have two sons, Christopher Alan and John Karl. Although both boys are in college and have little spare time, they and their cousin, Jim, have inherited some of their grandfather's love of making things of wood

Submitted by
Elvera Baumgartner Siegel

SCHLICHTIG



The old Phillip Schlichtig house, now torn down.

Charles Christian Schlichtig came, with his family to Missouri and located on the farm where Phillip Schlichtig lived (located south of the present Shelby Siegel home). Charles married Annalies Haage.

There were three Schlichtig girls: Sophia, Julia, and Minnie (who died quite young). Sophia and Julia both married Bremers.

Charles and Annalies had five children: Christian (Chris) born February 4, 1873, Bertha, born March 22, 1875, Emilie, born March 10, 1877, Herman, born October 29, 1881, Peter, born May 24, 1884. Christian (Chris) and Mary Schlichtig lived all of their married life on their farm southeast of Florence. Their children were: Victor Schlichtig, Albert Schlichtig, Elsie Schlichtig Maass, Herbert Schlichtig, Louis Schlichtig. All are deceased except Elsie.

Chris Schlichtig built a swinging bridge over Richland Creek so that his children could cross the creek to attend Rocky Point School. The remains of this bridge were completely washed out in the flood of 1990.

Submitted by
Mildred Schroder Strodman

CHRISTIAN RAGES

Christian Rajes (spelled variously as Rajes, Rahies, Raies, Raeas, Rogers, Rodgers, etc.) was born May 16, 1808 in Coventry, Warwickshire, England, the son of Johann and Margretha Rajes. He was baptized May 23, 1808 in St. Michael's Church in Coventry. This church subsequently became Coventry Cathedral. The record of Christian's parentage was taken from a copy of the original parish register as the church was destroyed during World War II. Christian's father, Johann Rajes, was a Husar in the 3rd Regiment of the King's German Legion.

During the Rajes family's sojourn in Coventry, England, Christian's father died and was buried on January 17, 1809. He was buried in the cemetery adjacent to the church, but no tombstone remains in evidence now. Most city churchyards became full and were closed in the last century, and in the case of Coventry, the new cathedral built next to the ruins of the old one occupies most of the area where the cemetery was located.

At some time, Christian and his mother returned to Germany, for in 1838, on the 15th, 16th, and 17th Sundays after Trinity Sunday, the Proclamation of Christian Rajes' intention to marry

Margarethe Rohrs was read. (Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday following Pentecost, or Whitsunday). It is later recorded that they married on October 19, 1838.

The youngest of six children (four girls and two boys), Margarethe Rohrs was born in Steinfeld, Province of Hanover, Germany on November 5, 1814. She was the daughter of Johann Diedrich Rohrs (born September 12, 1773, died February 17, 1837 of influenza) and his wife, Rebekka Rohrs (born in 1774 and died of influenza on February 13,, 1837). Johann and Rebekka were married April 28, 1797.

Prior to Johann Rohrs' marriage to Rebekka, he was a soldier, about 1790, in the 8th Royal Hanovrian Infantry Regiment. At that time, the English Kings were the rulers of Hanover. When Johann married Rebekka, he was a grenadier. Records state that he was a hardworking man who made his way from a tiny cottage in Winkeldorf to a farm at Steinfeld.

By 1839, Christian and Margarethe became the parents of twin sons, the first unnamed because he died shortly after birth, the second named Johann; a daughter was also born, followed by their surviving son of whom we know, John Rages, who began the trip from Germany to the New World with their parents during 1841; however, the baby sister died during the voyage.

Available information indicated that Christian, Margaretha, and John settled first on a 40-acre tract in Morgan County, which they procured from the United States Government by Certificate No. 24438 on January 25, 1844.

On February 22, 1844 in the Lake Creek District on Dorman's farm, Margarethe gave birth to a daughter whom she named Margarethe. It is noted in the church records of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Benton County, Missouri that John Diedrich Wahlers, Anna Bohling and Margaretha Ficken served as sponsors for the infant Margarethe as Pastor P. Wege baptized her "at the side of the Mother's coffin".

By 1848 Christian Rages married a woman named Anna Meyer. Anna was born in Lattberge, Osnabruck, Hanover, Germany of Catholic parents. In 1846, she joined the Lake Creek Methodist Episcopal Church, then pastored by Conrad Eisenmeyer. On April 7, 1849, their only son, Henry F. Rages, was born. Maria Anna Rages, their only daughter, was born April 1, 1852.

Christian Rages, still a German citizen, became a naturalized citizen of the United States on Oc-

tober 31, 1853 in Pettis County, Missouri. His son, John Rages, became a citizen through the Morgan County Court on April 15, 1855.

My descendency comes through John Rages who married Mary Bluhm. Their daughter, Julia Matilda Rages, married Henry Edward Hoehns and became my grandparents. Their daughter, Elisie Irene Hoehns, became my dearly loved Mother.

Submitted by
Dorothy Bass

FRITZ RASA

Fritz Rasa, son of Friedrick and Carolina Finkeldei Rasa, was born in Latzen Amt. Hanover, Germany on December 25, 1847. He married Minnie Brandt on March 6, 1873. Their children were Fred, Louisa, Wilhelm, Gus, Minna, Paulina, Rika, Emma, Emila, Ernest, William, Edward and Ferndinand.

Fritz was a farmer in the area of Florence, Missouri. They were members of the Trinity American Lutheran Church near Pymont. Fritz died in 1929. Minna died November 19, 1927. Both are buried in the church cemetery.

Ernest G. Rasa was born January 25, 1891 and graduated from Bluhm School. He married Anna Frances Klein on February 4, 1915. They were the parents of five children: Orva, Alma, Minnie, Lois and a son that died at birth. Ernest was a farmer, and owned and operated a threshing machine and saw-mill in the Self Prairie area. Both were members of the United Church of Christ at Florence, Missouri. Ernest died February 14, 1974 and Anna died April 4, 1971. Both are buried in the church cemetery.

Orva Rasa graduated from Self Chapel School. He married Eileen Grupe. Their children are Ruth Ann, Ray, Roy and a son who died at birth.

Alma Rasa graduated from Self Chapel School. She married Amos Rehmer. Their children are Marvin and Irene. Amos died April 16, 1979. Alma then married Henry Fischer in 1983. They reside in Stover.

Minnie Rasa graduated from Bluhm School. She married August Siegel Kanenbley. Their children are Wayne and Shirley. They reside on a farm four miles east of Florence on Richland Creek.

Lois Rasa graduated from Bluhm School. She married Emil Oehrke. Their children are Charles and Judy. One daughter died at birth. Lois died March 17, 1986.

Ruth Ann Rasa was born October 17, 1953. She graduated from Stover High School and State Fair College at Sedalia, Missouri. She married Donald Warnke. Their children are Adam and Derek. They reside outside of Florence, Missouri.

Ray Rasa was born May 9, 1959. He graduated from Stover High School. He married Cheryl Daniels. Their children are Nicholas and Brian. They reside outside of Florence, Missouri.

Roy Rasa was born September 24, 1961. He graduated from Stover High School. Roy resides in Stover.

Marvin Rehmer was born July 15, 1944. He graduated from Stover High School and spent six years in the National Guard. He married Donna Garrison. They had two children, Eric and a son who died at birth. Marvin owns and operates a farm one mile west of Florence.

Irene Rehmer was born on October 29, 1947. She graduated from Stover High School. She married Richard Dittmer. Their children are Kevin and Angela. They reside outside of Florence.

Wayne Kanenbley was born June 13, 1944. He graduated from Tipton High School and the University of Missouri at Columbia, Missouri. He spent three years in the U.S. Air Force. He married Rita Skaggs. Their children are Cynthia, Lynn and Mark. He owns and operates a farm in the Richland Creek area near Syracuse.

Shirley Kanenbley was born December 1, 1946. She graduated from Tipton High School and received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Business Education at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Missouri. She taught eight years at Stover High School. She married Gary Knipp. Their children are Christian, Sarah and Jared. They reside in Tipton.

Charles Oehrke was born November 9, 1948. He graduated from Stover High School. He married Sharon Goehenour. Their children are Kristen and Chad. He is employed in construction. He resides near Smithton.

Judy Oehrke was born September 20, 1951. She graduated from Stover High School and State Fair College in Sedalia. She married Bill Hays. Their children are Stephanie and Jennifer. They reside in Olathe, Kansas.

Submitted by
Mrs. Alma Rehmer Fischer
and
Mrs. Minnie Kanenbley

JOHANN HEINRICH RATJE

Johan H. Ratje was born about 1821 in Hanover, Germany; he came to the United States in the company of Henry Alers, arriving in New Orleans, Louisiana, in the fall of 1845.

Work was not plentiful, so he enlisted on May 7, 1846 in the military in New Orleans and was mustered in as a Private in Company A, 2nd Regiment, of the Louisiana Volunteers. He went on to fight in the Mexican War and was discharged May 7, 1846.

Shortly thereafter, Johann H. Ratje made his way to Pettis County where he married Catharina (Catharina) Mangels on November 3, 1847. Rev. William Schreck, minister of the Lake Creek Methodist Episcopal Church, performed the ceremony.

My great-grandmother Margaretha Ratje was born while Johann H. and Catharina Margaretha Mangels/Ratje lived on the Jacob Muller farm. (Catharina had been working for the Hinrich Balke family on their Cole Camp farm.) Margaretha's sponsors at her baptism were Maria Christina Wilhelmina Heiler and Hinrich Balke. She grew up and married my great-grandfather Hermann Hoehns of Morgan County.

On March 10, 1854, John H. Ratje purchased 40 acres of Morgan County land from the United States Government, Certificate #301193. This land was located in Section 32, Township 45, Range 19. Franklin Pierce was President.

Johann H. and Catharina's other children were Maria Ratje, Johan Heinrich Ratje, Maria Ratje, (married Johan Heinrich Hoehns) and Johann Frederick Ratje (twins; they were born December 11, 1853, and the son died September 11, 1854), Katherina Ratje, Sophia A. Ratje, August William Ratje and Martha Matilda Ratje.

It appears that Johann H. Ratje enlisted during the summer of 1861 at Florence, and that he served in Company B of the 9th Missouri Provisional Militia. He was discharged in the fall of 1863. The affidavit signed by John F. Bellmer and Hermann Hoehns states that he was of medium size, that he had a dark complexion with brown eyes and dark black hair, that he was born in Germany, and that he died in 1874 (November 13, 1874). He was a farmer, and while he was in the militia, Captain W.A. Mills was the company commander.

Catharina needed the affidavit in order to draw a pension on her deceased husband's military service. On April 30, 1888, she wrote to John C.

Black, the Commissioner of Pensions in Washington, D.C.: "Traditional evidence and history is all we have been able to get so far. The reason is that John Ratje, a "raw teuton" landing in N.O. – finding no work – with one or two of his companions, enlisted. After short service, came to Mo. and all traces of companions and data are forgotten and unless the rolls and records in your dept. see us out, we are at our end. ...We have sample of his hair and tin-type picture which we could send but await your advice."

To assist Catharina to procure this pension, affidavits were written and signed by John H. Hoehns and Cord Ringen, Henry Demand and John L. Kahrs. Henry Albers on June 1, 1889 wrote his affidavit describing Johann H. Ratje as follows: "German. Born in Kingdom of Hanover...Wore beard. Ratje landed in N.O. with me in 1845 (in the fall). He was about 23 or 24 years old then. *I do know he did enlist* – I did not. I was raised with him in Hanover – and knew him all during his life – to his death."

On June 3, 1889, Catharina Ratje wrote once more: "The identity of John Ratje as given by his widow is about as follows. We were raised in Hanover (Prussia) together. Came to N.O. on same vessel. He being I think 24 years old – and enlisted there, then, being the fall of the year. Complexion dark with red cheeks (rosy). Color of hair, blonde or dark brown – eyes, greyish brown - Occupation - none, unless day laborer. Height - 5 ft. 3 to 5 in. - thin - His signature we may possibly be able to find and if so, will send to you. This is my statement to the best of my understanding."

Catherina Ratje was last paid the pension of \$8.00 to May 4, 1904, and then was dropped from the Mexican War pension rolls because of her death on August 4, 1904. Both Johann H. and Catharina Ratje are buried in the Lake Creek Cemetery south of Smithton, Missouri.

When Catharina died, her Last Will and Testament, written and signed April 25, 1894, witnessed by John L. Ringen and William Kurtz of Morgan County, was brought to the Probate Court of Morgan County. Katherina Ratje/Kahrs, August Ratje, Sophia Ratje/Koelle, and Martha Ratje/Dittmer were given \$50.00 each. Listen to this final paragraph: "My will is further that the balance of my money if there is any shall be equally divided amongst my son Henry and son August and daughter Margaretha and daughter Mary and daughter Katherine and daughter Sophia and

daughter Martha, and my will is further that my clothing and bedding and the balance of my plunder shall as near as possible be divided amongst all of my said children as a remembrance of me."

Isn't that refreshing? Oftentimes, a parent will not acknowledge a child as a son or daughter or will treat one child generously and the other shabbily. I love this great-grandmother of mine! While she was seeing that each of her children received an equal portion, she was calling it "plunder". These are the intrepid, enduring determined pioneers who make up my ancestry. I'm satisfied with them, and I hope that they are satisfied with me as their descendant.

Submitted by
Dorothy Bass

RICHARDSON

Minnie Richardson's grandparents came from Germany, August and Minnie Lee Nolte. Later Minnie Lee Nolte was married to George Gowers. They lived near Florence, on the place known as the Catherine Woolery Place. Minnie Gowers died June 1936. August and Minnie Lee Nolte had seven children. One of the children was Gusta Nolte, married to Adolph Kroeschen in 1900. In 1901 they settled in Morgan County in the Self Chapel School District. Gusta and Adolph had eleven children. Otto Richardson and Minnie Kroeschen were married October 20, 1935 at the Trinity Lutheran Parsonage by Rev. D.E. Meyer at Pymont. On March 13, 1937 they bought a farm from Charley Lewis, Florence, Missouri.

The Richardson family of five is Kenneth Lee (April 18, 1936 - August 30, 1958, died after spending three years in the Army.), Leon Junior (February 16, 1938), Ida Mae (January 23, 1940), Joyce Ann (June 11, 1946), and Betty Lou (September 20, 1948).

Leon Junior married Donna. Their children are James Kenneth, Terease, Vicki and Robin. Ida Mae and Virgil Staus have one son, Joe. Joyce Ann and Martin Witte have no children. Betty Lou married Harold Marton and have three children, Kerry, Wesley Lee and Kristi.

Otto and Minnie Richardson celebrated their 50th (October 20, 1935) "Golden" Wedding Anniversary at the Parish Hall in Florence. Minnie Richardson was employed September 7, 1965 at Ralston Purina, California, Missouri. Otto Richardson was

employed August 5, 1966 at Cargill, California, Missouri. Otto retired from Cargill, and Minnie retired from Ralston Purina in 1976. Otto died December 25, 1987. After thirty five years, Minnie Richardson still lives in Florence, Missouri.

D.C. AND MARY WEAR

D.C. Wear (dates unknown) married Mary Williams born September 2, 1852. She died February 12, 1898. They had two children: Everett Lee Wear born January 7, 1896, and died in 1923, and Myrtle Wear (Golden) born July 25, 1893, and died April 21, 1897. Mary Wear married Leno Evans after her husband's death. They had no children.



Lizabeth Wear and daughters, Agnes (right) and Mable (left).

Everett married Anna Elizabeth Moon born October 17, 1896, and died in 1975. They were married November 4, 1914, in Pettis County. Everett and Anna Elizabeth had two daughters: Agnes (Worthley, Bastian) born July 24, 1917, and Mable (Worthley) born August 19, 1921.

Agnes married Robert Worthley on August 28, 1933 and they had four children: Donald James Worthley, William Lee Worthley, Phyllis Jean Worthley (Fermyn) and Robin M. Worthley Jackson.

Mable married Johnnie Worthley on February 25, 1940. They had two children: Everett Ray Wor-

thley and Elizabeth Marie Worthley (Reyes).

Everett and his stepfather built the Wear homeplace northeast of Florence. Agnes and Mable spent their school days in the old frame schoolhouse. Mable spent some of her schooldays in the new schoolhouse.

Submitted by
Mable Worthley

WEICKEN (Also spelled WEICKEN and WIECHEN)

Catharina Wiecken came from Hanover, Germany to Boonville, Missouri, in 1854 and then settled in Millcreek Township # 44, Range 18. Coming with her were three sons and Diedrick's wife, Dorethea Bull Wiechen.

Henry Wiecken was born in 1822, and died February 1, 1908. He was buried at Lake Creek cemetery. He married Margratta ? who was born in 1833, and died January 19, 1926.

John Henry Wiecken was born June 27, 1830, in Scheneringer, Gemany, and died June 8, 1919, in Bison, Kansas. He married Gasha Ficken on February 3, 1854. She died May 24, 1855. He later married Catherine Ficken who was born April 12, 1839. They were married January 20, 1856.

Diedrick Wiecken was born June 13, 1826 and died January 20, 1912. He was buried in the Ebenezer Cemetery east of Florence, Missouri. He came from Hanover, Germany. He married Dorethea Bull who was born August 24, 1824, and died April 18, 1894. She came to America with Diedrick and is also buried at Ebenezer Cemetery.

The children of Diedrick and Dorethea were: Fritz Wiecken born April 21, 1854, somewhere over the Atlantic Ocean and died in 1928. He was a bachelor and is buried at Ebenezer Cemetery.

Henry Wiecken settled around Smithton, Missouri. He was raised by an aunt and uncle, possibly Heinrich H. and Mayret Wiecken.

John Richard Wiecken was born October 10, 1865, died November 26, 1936, and was buried at Ebenezer Cemetery. He was known as John Dick, Diedrick, or J.D. On February 24, 1889, he married Emma Magdalena Klein who was born January 13, 1864, near Florence, Missouri. She died October 13, 1913, and was buried in Ebenezer Cemetery.

John Dick and Emma had nine children: George Henry Wiecken who was born Novmeber 2, 1890, and died September 15, 1965. He married Elva

Mae Richardson on March 21, 1915. Elva was born January 21, 1893, and died December 20, 1974. Dora Wiecken who was born August 8, 1892, and died October 1954. On April 7, 1921, she married Dave Walter Wahlers, born July 10, 1891, and died February 13, 1972. Lydia Marie Wiecken was born May 22, 1894, and died July 17, 1959. She was married on April 28, 1920, to Henry Homer Lewis, born September 18, 1894, and died October 18, 1982. John William Wiecken was born June 19, 1896, and died March 15, 1986. He was married to Georgia Opal Moon on August 4, 1920. Opal was born September 2, 1902, and died January 22, 1992. Ernest Elmer Weicken was born May 11, 1898 and died December 5, 1890. He married Velma Fern Dick on August 12, 1919. The marriage ended in divorce. On January 4, 1928 he married Iva Norma Ash. Norma was born February 27, 1907. Lena Wiecken was born February 17, 1900, and died November 10, 1894. On February 10, 1924, she married Shelby Tom Ross. Shelby was born April 24, 1900, and died March 1, 1980. Anna Wiecken was born April 4, 1902, and died January 28, 1990. She married Clarence Lee Schroder born June 6, 1900 and died May 30, 1985. Maggie Wiecken was born August 14, 1905 and died March 2, 1961. She was married July 22, 1928, to Walter Harold Siegel. Harold was born March 1, 1904, and died December 24, 1972. Emma Wiecken, the youngest, was born November 7, 1912. She married Jack Jones who was born May 13, 1908, and died June 14, 1979.

According to the obituary of Fritz Wiecken there were two sisters of Fritz, Henry, and John: Maggie Wiecken who married Fritz Klein, and Marie Wiecken who married a Rehmer.

The story is told that J.D. Wiecken was quite a prankster. He went to Ebenezer Church at night services and he would turn the saddle backward on someone's horse.

Several grandchildren of John Richard and Emma Magdalena still live in the area: Shelby Siegel, Milton Schroder, Laverna Schroder Zimmerschied, Dorean Schroder Case, Marjorie Wiecken Cooper, Elvon Wahlers, Glenn Jones, William Wayne Jones and Raymond Wiecken.

Submitted by Dorean Schroder Case

WILLIAM WILLIAMS

William Williams was born June 30, 1818 in Wales. At the age of six months, on December 30,

1818, he, along with his grandfather and grandmother Williams and the remainder of his family, emigrated to the United States. During the voyage, his grandfather became very ill and with no available medicine or doctor, he died. The family arrived in America on July 4, 1819.

William, his mother and his two sisters settled in Columbus, Ohio. William lived in Ohio until he was grown and married to Jane Evans. At that time, he, his wife and his wife's family, and his grandmother, George started out for Missouri.

William and Jane Williams became the parents of five children: Mary Elizabeth (married January 1, 1860 to Henry King), Mildred Jane (married August 1, 1875 to John Henry Fogle), Margaret, Robert Walter (married Mary Sophronia Cramer) and George Ann Williams (married September 1, 1866 to Belford Walker). On March 7, 1858, Jane died, leaving William to raise their family. George Ann at that time, it is said was only three years old.

Sometime later, William decided that he would go to California and work as a delivery person, bringing food and supplies to the gold miners. He and some friends drove a pack train drawn by oxen to the state of California.

In 1861, William Williams enlisted in the military service during the Civil War. His son, Robert Walter Williams, also served. William spent his last years in the home of his son Robert. William died November 9, 1898.

Robert Walter Williams was born January 9, 1848 in Morgan County, Missouri. He was reared without the maternal influence of his mother as she had died in 1858. Although Robert was too young for military service, he somehow managed to enlist. He served in the cavalry and ended up being thrown from a horse and badly injured. He was granted a medical discharge and sent home. When he was finally able to work again, he made his home with the family of David B. Cramer where, in 1870, he fell in love with and was given permission to marry the eldest daughter of David and Lavina Cramer, fifteen-year-old Mary Sophronia Cramer. They were married August 18, 1870.

Robert and Sophronia bought a small home near Florence and raised a large family of sixteen children: David William (became a Baptist minister), Margaretha Ann (died as infant), Charles Henry, Robert Walter, Mary Lavina J. (died as infant), Lillian Mae (married James Ordell Mitchell), Edward Ross (married Clara Ringen and then her sister), John Franklin, George Amberlin, Nettie

Lacy, Mattie Lacota, James Wesley, Cecil Dora Dea, Stella Lucille, Daisey Pearl and Ethel Grace Williams (died as infant). Thirteen children lived to adulthood.

Robert and Sophronia Williams were allowed to celebrate fifty-four years of marriage before Robert died February 29, 1924 on the home place that he had built and on which he had helped to raise his family. At his death, Sophronia gave up housekeeping as she was nearly blind and made her home with her daughters. She died November 24, 1927 at the home of her daughter, Cecil Dora Dea Steele. Both Robert and Sophronia were members of the Bethlehem Baptist Church, Sophronia at her death was the oldest remaining charter member.

Our family's descendancy from the Williams family is twofold. Jim is related to them through his Mother's brother, James Ordell Mitchell who married Lillian Mae Williams, and my relationship is through Edward Ross Williams who married Clara Ringen.

Genealogy is such fun! About the time you think you've figured out who you're related to, something changes and you discover it's different than you thought!

This story was written using material prepared by Cecil Williams/Steele in 1953 and later research done by Dorothy A. Bass, Smithton, Missouri.

Submitted by
Dorothy Bass

married Bonnie Fowler, lives in Florence; Johnnie Lee (deceased), married Mable Ware, live in Kansas City.

William Joseph and Minnie Witzke moved to the Florence community about 1908, with their seven children from Latham, Missouri. Three sons had died just before they moved here and are buried at Highland Cemetery near Latham. One son, Johnnie Lee was born in 1918. Most of the children married people from the Florence area.

Charley and Bonnie Fowler-Worthley had three children. Charley was a Deputy Sheriff of Morgan County for 16 years (1956-1972) under J.T. Hull. Charley spent most of his life farming in the Florence area. He was a member of the Florence Methodist Church, and is buried in the Methodist Cemetery. Bonnie has been a homemaker in the Florence area for 86 years and is a member of the Florence Methodist Church.

WOOLERY



Floyd and Erma Woolery, 1992

Steve and Katie Woolery had a son, John Henry Woolery (died 1895). They are all buried in Syracuse Cemetery. John Henry's wife Margaret was buried in Otterville in 1923, because the roads were so bad that they couldn't get her to Syracuse for burial. They were the parents of William Henry "Bill" Woolery born in Camden County in 1880, Perry and Addie. They had a half-sister named Matt. John Henry died when Bill was about 15. The family lived with Matt, who married Joe Edwards.

Perry married Frona and had a daughter, Flossie,

WITZKE-WORTHLEY



Left to Right: William, married Nettie Williams (both deceased); George, married Georgia Langhorn (both deceased); Gilbert, married Alma Carvre (both deceased); Sara Married Gus Stratton (both deceased); Opal, married Herbert Kurtz (both deceased); Robert (deceased), married Agnes Ware, lives in Kansas City; Charles Worthley (deceased),

who lives in Albuquerque, NM. Addie married Guy Donovan and lived in Wichita, KS until her death. Bill married Lottie Lowery in 1916. They had three sons, Leonard (1917), Joe (1920), and Floyd (1930). Floyd was born where Bill Starke now lives. Bill worked as a farmer and on a threshing machine when he was young. In 1925 he was struck by lightning. He and Earl Born were parking Earl's roadster in the barn at the place where they lived, by Flat Creek, when the barn was hit by lightning. Bill was holding onto the barn door and lightning went through him to the ground, burning his shoes off. He was unconscious for over three hours. It was over a month before he was able to do anything. They got Dr. Fogle to come out to treat him.

Bill worked on WPA and helped build the Syracuse School. Rock was quarried on top of the hill on the farm now owned by Johnnie Lewis. He also helped build the Florence School.

Leonard served in World War II in Germany, where he was a prisoner of war. When he returned from Germany, he married Beatrice McPeak in Texas. They settled in Sedalia and had two children, Eugene and Linda Faye. Eugene married Donna Silvey and had three daughters, Becky, Stephanie and Lori. They live in Sedalia. Linda Faye married John Rieves and had a son, Mike. She later married John Miller and had a daughter, Shauna. They now live in Green Ridge.

Joe Woolery married Catherine Aldrich and had three children, Jack, Jose and Diana. Jack married Joyce Smith and had two children, Marcie and Jody. Marcie has a son Adam and lives in Stover. Jody lives at home. They recently moved back to the Florence area and live in the Otto Eldenburg farm.

Josie married Duane Spaulding and had a son, Dale. She later married Richard Old. They have two daughters, Jennifer and Pamela and live in Kansas.

Diana married Gerry Pummill and had two children, Jeremy and Jessica. They live in Otterville.

Floyd married Erma Goff in 1951. He served in Korea for a year. They have two sons, Larry and Darrell. Larry married Brenda Jackson and had two children, Billy and Amanda. They live on a farm in Eldon. Darrell is married to Mary Shoemaker. They have one daughter and live in Sedalia.

Bill spent the last eight years of his life living with Floyd and Erma and the boys. He lived to be 94 years old. He was missed very much when he passed away in 1974.

Submitted by
Erma and Floyd Woolery

WORTHLEY

Charley and Bonnie had three children. Norman, Juanita, and Erma LaVera "Boob". Norman married Betty Bobbit (deceased), Juanita married Earl J. "Judge" Carver, (both deceased) and "Boob" married Clyde Myers (deceased).

Norman and Betty Bobbitt-Worthley had three children; Walter, Caren, and Ronald. Walter married Vickey Randall, they have four children, Cody, Jason, Jennifer, and Ashley. Caren married Bill Klein and have two children, Kimberly and Billy



Charley and Bonnie Worthley Family, 1954
Seated (left to right): Jerry Myers, Walter Worthley, Samuel "Pete" Carver, Ronald Worthley, Bonnie Worthley, Bonnies Sue Myers, Connie Carver, Karen Worthley, Janet Carver.
Standing (left to right): Juanita Carver, Earl "Judge" Carver, Erma LaVera "Boob" Myers, Clyde Myers, Betty Worthley, Norman Worthley.

Jo. Kimberly married Marc Stuart, Sedalia; and Billy Jo has one daughter, Brittany. Ronald has no children of his own and lives in Columbia, Missouri.

Juanita and Judge had three children; Janet, Connie, and Samuel Wayne "Pete" Carver (deceased, 1951-1967). Janet married William D. Bremer, February 4, 1961, and had two children, Barbara and Jeffrey. Barbara married Robert Smith, September 7, 1991, and has one son, Daniel Wesley. Jeffrey "Jeff", is single and has no children. Janet divorced and later remarried Michael Eugene Franklin on November 17, 1977. He has one daughter, Kim Franklin. Connie married Larry Harms (now divorced), and has one son, Heath Dale Wayne. Connie later married Roger Burke of Stover, Missouri.

Clyde and Erma LaVera "Boob" Worthley-Myers have two children, Jerry and Bonnie Sue. Jerry has two children Angela and Jeremy. Bonnie Sue married Wray Hibdon, Syracuse, Missouri and has two children, Ryan and Loren.

WRAY

In 1942, Leo Wray, living south of Stover, and his wife, Agnes, bought and moved to the Bennington farm two miles south of Florence. After much hard work the old place became home. Leo farmed, did a lot of custom hay bailing, and was an employee of M.F.A. in Sedalia for several years. Agnes taught in the rural schools in the Florence vicinity, later teaching in Stover. She taught 43 years all in Morgan County.

Agnes is the daughter of Tom and Minnie Nolting Jones. They lived on a farm near Glenstead in Morgan County. This farm was taken out of Indian Territory by her grandfather and has been in the Jones family ever since. It is now owned by her brother Marlin Jones of Sedalia. Agnes had three other brothers: Wray, Otis, and Walter.

Agnes remembers attending Memorial Services at Florence when she was a little girl. The band marched down the street to the cemetery. The band marched single file around each veteran's grave. It was a beautiful service.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE CONTRIBUTORS

Ambush Resturant
Anderson, Warren
Auto Owners, Inc. John Fellerkamp
Baughman, Ray and Beatrice
Beautrama
Beggs, Ina
Bremer, Keith
Bremer, Lloyd and Ellen
Brooks, Richard and Kay
Carver, Leo and Rosie
Chiles, Elmer and Betty
Cook, Cecil and Sharyn
Craig, Richard
Cramer, Dale and Nora
Florence Lions Club
Florence Trading Post
Franklin, Mike and Janet

Hawks, Sid and Michele
Houchen, Edith
Kanenbley, August and Minnie
K. C. Express
Lewis, Bill and Barbara
Miller, William Henry
Richardson, Minnie
Rose, Ferrill and Edna
Rose, Ferrill and Lynn
Schroder, Milton and Myrna
Sho-Me Express, Jerry Meyers,
Jack and Gloria Klein
Siegel, Shelby and Elvera
St. John UCC Lay Fellowship
Woolrey, Floyd and Erma
Wray, Agnes
Zimmerschied, Don and Laverna

